

150 YEARS PIKE COUNTY KENTUCKY



1822 - 1972

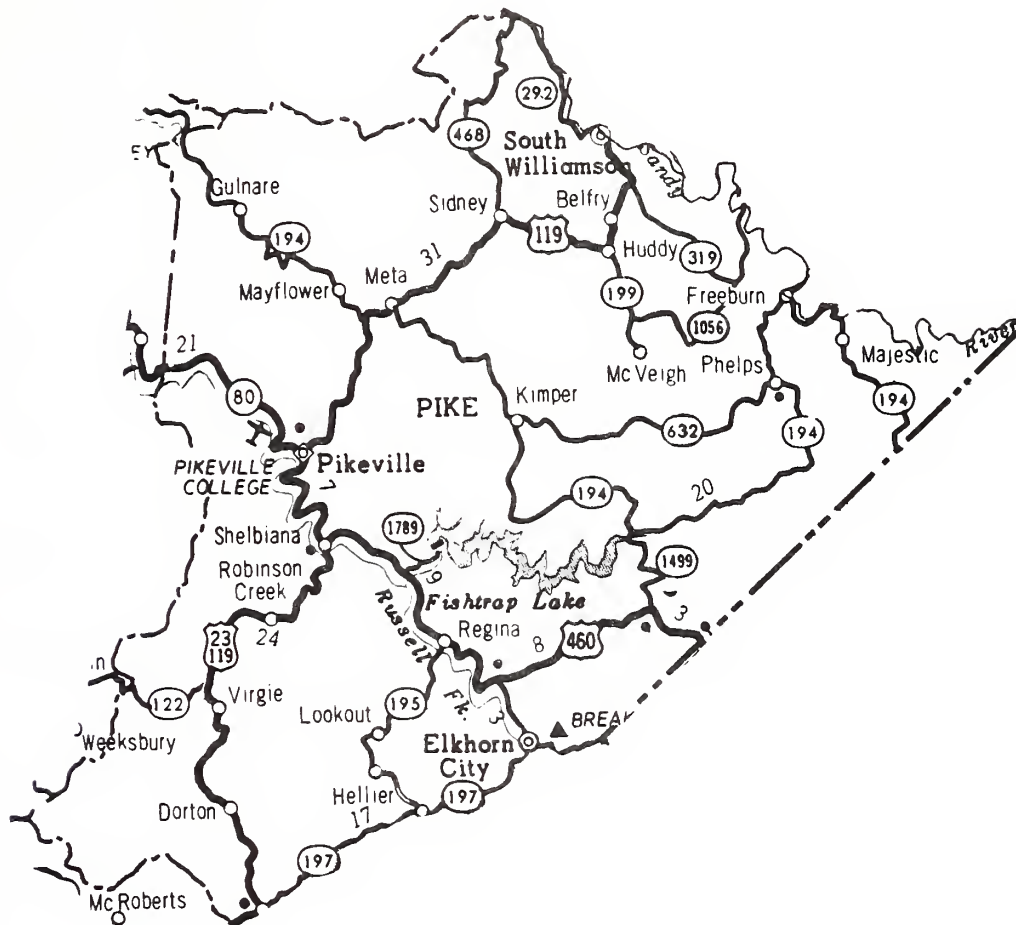
Revised Edition
Second Printing
1987

SESQUICENTENNIAL ISSUE
VOL. I
PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY

One Hundred and Four Pages — 

SESQUICENTENNIAL OF PIKE COUNTY KENTUCKY
1822-1972

A COMPILATION OF ARTICLES



VOL. I
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED COPYRIGHT JULY, 1972
PUBLISHER
PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PIKEVILLE, KY.

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Revised Edition
Second Printing
1987

Printed in the United States of America
by

EXECUTIVE PRINTING
Pikeville, Kentucky

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THE PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Pike County Historical Society was organized on February 11, 1963 at the home of Miss Lena Porter, 415 Third Street in Pikeville. The Field Representative of the Kentucky State Historical Society, Mr. Charles Atcher, rendered advice in setting up the new organization.

Those present were Mr. Lon B. Rogers, Dr. and Mrs. Charles M. Knapp, Mr. and Mrs. F. Dale Burke, Mrs. Sally Dotson, Mrs. A.H. Wellman, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Forsyth, Miss Anna Forsyth, Mrs. W.B. Call, Miss Marian Ratliff, Miss Katherine Ratliff, Mrs. John S. Miller, Sr., and Miss Lena Porter.

Mr. F. Dale Burke was chosen to be temporary chairman and conducted the organization. Permanent officers chosen were: Frank Forsyth, President; Mrs. John S. Miller, Sr., Vice-President; Mrs. F. Dale Burke, Secretary; Miss Marian Ratliff, Treasurer.

The name of the organization was chosen to be The Pike County Historical Society. In the Bylaws the purposes of the Society were set forth in Article II. The object and purposes of the Society shall be the preservation of the history and culture of Pike County, Kentucky, and its people through the collection of documents, artifacts, and writings and the genealogies of the families of this area. For such purposes, the Society shall engage in research, education, preparation of source papers and correspondence with other historical societies. In keeping with these purposes, the Society began a publishing program in the early part of this decade and plans to continue on through the 1970's. In February, 1971, The History of the Badge in Pike County and Pikeville by Jack Bartley, a former policeman, was published. It was revised and reprinted in June, 1972.

During the sesquicentennial year materials for two volumes have been submitted. The first volume contains a compilation of articles (or portions thereof) with a few pictures and advertisements. The second volume will contain more pictorial history and advertisements. However, it will be as valuable, historically, as Volume One. Within two years, the Society plans to publish a comprehensive book of biography with one section for Who's Who in Pike County, Kentucky and another section for Who Was Who in Pike County, Kentucky. Following that book, there are plans for others on genealogy, history and economic geography.

The Society is also committed to helping in preservation of historic buildings; in one of which there are plans to start a museum.

Anyone can join the Society and help it become more beneficial to everyone.

THE EDITORIAL STAFF:

Claire Kelly, Editor-in-Chief
Frank Forsyth, President
George Thornbury, Program Chairman
Leonard Roberts, Editor of Revised Edition

IN HOUSE

FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, 1972

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 23

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1972

Mr. Marrs Allen May introduced the following resolution, which originated in the House, was ordered to be printed.

A RESOLUTION honoring Pike County.

WHEREAS, Pike County was the hunting ground of the Indians and long-rifle hunters; and the location of the first permanent settlement for the pioneers, who in the early days of our Commonwealth helped hew out the destiny of our great people; and

WHEREAS, the endurance and endeavor of the pioneers of the past and the progressiveness of the present day citizenry developed one of the greatest industrial sections of our Commonwealth; starting with the day of the canoe, continuing with steamboat transportation and arriving at the present day where railroads and improved highways and modern conveniences have made Pike County, with its timber and mineral resources, an industrial empire; and

WHEREAS, Pike County has an illustrious history and has produced many distinguished sons active in state, national and world affairs, including those who have participated in the defense of our great nation, all of which reflects credit upon this great Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, from July 3rd to the 9th. inclusive, in this year, 1972, the citizens of Kentucky will at Pikeville celebrate the one-hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the existence of Pike County;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

- 1 That the House of Representatives, representing all counties
- 2 of Kentucky, does hereby extend congratulations and felicitations
- 3 to the citizens of Pike County on the occasion of their Sesquicen-
- 4 tennial celebration.

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Editor's Note:

The above resolution was mostly taken from one which had been passed by the Kentucky legislature in 1950 when Floyd County celebrated its sesquicentennial (150th year). Also from this resolution the following information has been found in regard to Pike County's genealogy.

The area that is now known as Pike County was formed from Floyd County in 1821 (a portion of what is now Martin County was also in this original area). The area had been part of Mason County from 1787 to 1800; during which time the Commonwealth of Kentucky became the 15th state of the United States of America (1792). Before 1787 the area was in Bourbon County for six years and in Fayette County one year (1780-1781). Prior to that for three years it was in Kentucky County which was one of the three counties made from Fincastle County when the Commonwealth of Virginia dissolved it. It had been in Fincastle County from 1772 to 1777. Prior to that (1770-1772), it had been in Bottetourte County, which had been formed from Augusta County in 1754. In 1738, Augusta County had been formed from Orange County, which had been formed in 1734 from Spotsylvania County, which had been formed in 1720.

The information for the resolution had been given by George Glen Hatcher, a Floyd Countian who was Secretary of State at that time.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE FORMATION OF
PIKE COUNTY AND PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY

On December 19, 1821, Pike County was formed from a part of Floyd County by act of the General Assembly of Kentucky, under Governor John Adair, and was named in honor of the popular hero Gen. Zebulon M. Pike (and, obviously, the county seat was named Pikeville by association.) With the rapid growth in population it is probable that the new county was created to give the citizens the convenience of reasonable travel distances to their seat of government.

Having no public facilities the first Pike County Court was held on March 4, 1822, at the house of Spencer Adkins just below where Levisa Fork meets Russell Fork of the Big Sandy River. On March 25, 1822, a commission was appointed by the County Court to select a permanent county seat. The commissioners chose a site to be called Liberty, just below the forks of the river. However, there was a lack of popular approval of the site chosen. So, after considerable maneuvering a second group of commissioners was appointed in 1823 to select a permanent location more suitably situated for the permanent county seat. Obviously, requirements for the location were ample, level land, near the river for navigation and at a crossing of roads.

On December 24, 1823, the commissioners reported the selection of a location described as follows: "Peach Orchard Bottom; opposite the mouth of lower Chloe Creek on land owned by Elijah Adkins." Elijah Adkins donated one acre of land for the County Court House, and the land was surveyed by James Honaker on March 23, 1824. The survey was to be the official map, and was filed March 7, 1827 in Deed Book A, page 252, Pike County Court Clerk's Office, Pikeville, Kentucky. By order of the proper authorities, the above described map was to include lot boundaries, streets and alleys for the entire town of Pikeville. Most of these demarcations are still honored.

Having established a permanent location for the county seat, the next step was to build a courthouse. Accordingly, on the first day of court in May, 1824, in Order Book No. 1, page 78, the appointed commissioners rendered the following report: ".....the Courthouse shall be of hewed logs, 24 ft. square.....To be a story and a half high covered with shingles..... The 17th day of May 1824" Signed, John Bevans, Thomas May, William Furgeson, Commissioners.

The first post office was called "Pike" with Will M. Smith, postmaster. The post office name was changed to Piketon in 1829 and William Williams was postmaster; in 1881, the name was changed to Pikeville and Lewis C. Dils was made postmaster.

Using the date of 1824 as the beginning of Pikeville, it was six years later that the first official U.S. Census was taken in 1830.

The official census gives the following information concerning the town of Pikeville:

HEAD OF FAMILYFAMILY TOTAL

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Thomas Owens | 12 |
| Nathan Hamilton | 8 |
| Elias Boswell | 5 |
| Samuel Marrs | 12 |
| James Honaker | 8 |
| John D. Mimms | 2 |
| William Williams | 2 |
| <hr/> | |
| Seven Families | 49 Total |
| Total under 30 years of age | 34 Persons |

From such records as letters, invoices and bills of lading it appears that the steamboat landing (port of entry) was referred to as Piketon or Pikeville, until late in the century. The steam boat traffic was accommodated by a wharf boat - or freight terminal - moored in the river just back of the courthouse and served by the "State Road" as shown on the official map mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs. From old photographs, the length of the wharf boat superstructure is calculated to have been very close to eighty feet in length.

This gives a brief outline of the origin and organizations of the first few years of Pike County and Pikeville, Kentucky, leaving yet to be told a vast store of related information.

Editor's Note:

There is no problem in finding historians who give the origin of Pike County's name, but, there is a problem in proving that Zebulon M. Pike was ever in Pike County.

Mrs. Hope Dils Wellman says that her great aunt Georgia Adams (a Methodist evangelist) told her he passed through Pike County. This does not seem far-fetched when one reads from a letter written July 5, 1807 by Pike, "I shall proceed immediately to St. Louis and thence through Kentucky, Virginia, etc. to the Federal City." This is on p. 833 of Vol. II of The Expeditions of Zebulon Montgomery Pike by Elliott Cones.

DANIEL BOONE IN EASTERN KENTUCKY

By

Henry P. Scalf

As the Eighteenth Century began Daniel Boone's grandfather, George Boone, a Quaker and weaver of Devon, England, began to think of America where there was religious freedom. He sent his two sons, George and Squire, with their sister Sarah, to Pennsylvania to prove or disprove the glowing reports out of America. They found Pennsylvania was all it was said to be, so Squire and Sarah stayed. George Boone went back to Devonshire to report. Four years later, in 1717, George Boone, the elder, embarked ship for America.

Squire Boone married Sarah Morgan and Daniel Boone was their sixth child. He was born Nov. 2, 1734, in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

In 1750 Squire Boone disposed of his Pennsylvania land and began a migration that was to occupy two years time and take him by 1752 to the Yadkin River Valley in Rowan (now Davidson) County, N.C. That was frontier country that delighted Daniel Boone, now in his nineteenth year. He roamed and hunted in the far reaches of the wilderness. He "joined up" to serve with Gen. Braddock on the ill-fated expedition of that British general to chastise the Indians. With Braddock was a John Finley, wagoner, who had only a short time earlier returned from a trading trip to the Indians. Boone and Finley became friends. Long hours they talked of the Middle Ground that began at Fort Pitt. Beyond there was another land, Finley said, which he had never visited; but, of which, the Indians spoke in wonder. This land was south of the Ohio River, its cane-brakes filled with game and its streams choked with fish. Someday, they vowed, they would visit this Land of Tomorrow.

In this article we concern ourselves only with Boone in Eastern Kentucky. His work in cutting the Wilderness Road, his assistance in founding Boonesboro, his adventures with Indians, his leadership of the early settlers of Kentucky, his surveying and migration to Missouri have been well-written in minute detail by scores of authors.

One of the most important dates in the life of Daniel Boone was his marriage to Rebecca Bryan in 1756. She was typically of the frontier, inured to the hard struggles of the borderland, self-reliant and willing to assume the burden of growing and harvesting crops while her husband hunted for meat and peltry, and explored the far vistas of the western wilderness. For months Boone would be gone; she never knew exactly where, but there is no record that she complained.

Boone was an inveterate carver on beech trees and since his inscriptions in Eastern Kentucky are so debated, we quote John Bakeless, in his DANIEL BOONE - MASTER OF THE WILDERNESS. Stated Bakeless: "There has been much controversy as to the authenticity of these inscriptions but there is no real ground for questioning them. Scores of similar Boone inscriptions have been recorded, always in lands where he is known to have travelled. They must be genuine for the only alternative explanation is the existence of an industrious joker who ranged the wilderness, carving fraudulent inscriptions without ever making a mistake as to the correct locale. . . ."

In the fall of 1767 Boone could resist no longer the great longing to enter Kentucky. He would have fared considerably better if John Finley had been around to talk it over with, but Finley was away on one of his long trading missions. Boone induced a Yadkin Settler, William Hill, to accompany him to Kentucky. Boone pointed out how they would travel. They would go over the mountains to Holston, across another mountain backbone to the Clinch, across other mountains until they struck the headwaters of Pound River. Christopher Gist had left Kentucky behind through Pound Gap on his return from exploring the state in 1751. Boone most assuredly was going to follow backward on Gist's 16-year-old trail, descend the Kentucky River after emerging through Pound Gap and thus reach the levels of Kentucky.

However, when Boone and Hill came through Pound Gap they turned right to follow the most beaten animal trail, which they thought Gist must have used, and in so doing headed almost straight west to Central Kentucky but slightly northwest toward the Ohio. They, however, descended the rugged Elkhorn and finding Shelby Gap, crossed over onto Shelby Creek and descended that stream until they came to the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy. Whether they hunted or tarried, we do not know. They probably didn't tarry for Boone wanted to get out of the mountains as the first signs of impending winter were already appearing. Down the Levisa Fork they travelled and by the time they reached the present site of Prestonsburg they had need of meat, so, they searched for an animal trail that might lead them to a salt lick.

At the mouth of Middle Creek they found the desired animal trail and followed it up that stream a few miles to the site of the present mining town of David. The salt spring bore evidence that innumerable animals, especially deer, had visited it. Boone and Hill sat down to wait. By nightfall they had felled a deer and made camp. That night a snow storm struck and by early morning they knew that the depth of it would prevent traveling for days. Making a better and more sheltered camp they lived on venison; for all they had to do to procure it was to wait for the unsuspecting animals to appear at the spring. The year 1767 ended and 1768 came, and still Boone and Hill stayed at what later came to be called Young's Salt Works. They probably explored a bit when the weather was not too inclement. We can safely assume that by mid-winter the two woodsmen had oriented themselves in the wilderness. Years later when Boone would be asked if he was ever lost in the wilderness, he would always reply, "I was bewildered a few times." On that trip to the Big Sandy he may have been bewildered a bit but the stars must have told him something of his position. Finally, concluding that the route they were on was no certain and acceptable way to Central Kentucky, they broke camp and returned to Yadkin.

Boone, back on the Yadkin farm, planted a crop in 1768, harvested it in the fall, then hunted and explored the far places. By spring of the year 1769 he was restless beyond measure, but he did manage to put in a crop. Finally, he told Rebecca of his intention to go to Kentucky to hunt. John Finley was going he said, and four others. We need not detail here the adventures of Boone and his part in Kentucky in the years 1769 to the spring of 1771.

In 1773 Boone sold his Yadkin farm of 640 acres and organized a party to settle in Kentucky. Indians attacked in Powel's Valley and Boone's son, James, was captured and tortured to death by the savages. All of them turned back;

some to North Carolina, but Boone lingered with his family in what is now Scott County, Virginia.

In 1774, Boone was free from any military duty he had assumed, (or had impressed upon him), in the Clinch and Holston valleys. He left Fort Blackmore early in 1775 and went out over the old Fincastle Road, turned away from it somewhere in Clinch Valley and headed for the Big Sandy Valley which he had visited with Hill in 1767.

Allow me here to quote my book, KENTUCKY'S LAST FRONTIER, pages 52-53: "Where was Boone in January and February of 1775? We do not know for sure. He could have been on the Yadkin, or he could have been exploring the watersheds of the Southwest Virginia and Eastern Kentucky rivers." We know only that he had gone out on the Fincastle Road for Kentucky. That much is established. Quoting again: "On the old Allen farm on the Gosling Fork of Goose Creek on Beaver Creek in Floyd County, high up on a mountain is Daniel Boone Rock.....This rock is not far down the ridge from the Osborn High Rocks on the Gosling Fork side of the mountain. It is a flat rock and is just the place where one tired of climbing or wandering would choose to rest. On this rock is the inscription, 'D.B. 1775' carved deeply into the stone....If Boone came through Pound Gap and wanted to strike westward he would descend Elkhorn Creek, pass through Shelby Gap, ascend Indian Creek and over to Left Beaver Creek. One more ascent would have placed him high upon the mountain near the Daniel Boone Rock."

There is considerable traditional evidence, corroborated by carvings and the remembrances of the pioneers of Eastern Kentucky that Boone visited the present Breathitt County. Until a very few decades ago there stood a giant sycamore at the mouth of Frozen Creek. It was hollow and so large inside that two or three men could have crowded in for shelter. There is a story, repeated by the early settlers, that Boone (with or without companions), sought refuge in the giant tree during a winter storm. He (or they) nearly froze to death by morning, and the stream was named Frozen, a name it bears today. One fork of Frozen is Boone's Fork. Adam Birchfield, an early settler, stated that when he first came to the stream he found an old decaying hunter's camp and on a nearby beech was carved the name of Daniel Boone. On the Thomas Strong Fork of Frozen, Boone's name was also carved on a beech. There were no dates. Usually, however, when Boone carved his initials or name he cut a date. The Frozen Creek tradition rests upon insecure evidence, like many other legends about the famous frontiersman.

If we understand Boone, we know that he realized that in the years to come many would tread in his footsteps. When he sat down by a tree or on a stone he would contemplate that he was the first white man to visit this section of the untravelled wilderness. Resting, and in a reflective mood, he would take out his ever keen knife and begin carving, be it on tree or stone. Usually he left a date under his name or initials, many times he didn't. He left no dates on a stone when he carved his name near East Bernstadt, Laurel County. He left no date when he cut his name on a stone found many years ago in Greenup County. He left no date when he inscribed his name on a beech at the mouth of Little Brush Creek, a tributary of Johns Creek. He did leave a date on a beech tree on a high ridge overlooking the Licking River in the present Magoffin County. The inscription, having a remarkable similarity to the carving on Daniel Boone Rock in Floyd County, reads: "D. Boon," and under it, "1776." If Boone carved one he most certainly carved the other.

Somewhere on the Virginia frontier Boone met William Robert Leslie, who became, unless research names another, the first permanent settler on Big Sandy. Just when and where they met is unknown but it was probably in 1789 after Boone left Limestone (Maysville) and went to the Kanawha Valley. Leslie had been restlessly on the move since 1779 when he left Augusta County, Virginia and went to Amherst County. That Boone met Leslie and they discussed the Sandy country is highly credible. Boone knew the West Fork well and Leslie knew something of the East or Tug Fork, for, in 1789, he had attempted a settlement near the mouth of Pond Creek (in the present Pike County), and had only a slit throat (now healing), from the Indians, to show for it. Boone, wiser in the ways of Indians, and more acquainted with their Western trails, offered to show Leslie some choice lands on Johns Creek, off the beaten Indian paths. There was more security from savage hostility, and there was time to build cabins and form a settlement. After that, let the Indians come. The next year, 1790, Leslie, guided by Boone, came to Johns Creek. Along the way they indulged in the frontier inclination to swap. They exchanged rifles and powder horns. The Boone horn and rifle had carved upon them certain inscriptions - for the famous frontiersman ever indulged in the use of his knife - on powder horns, forest trees and rifles. That the first aura of fame was now falling upon Boone is recognized since Leslie himself, no amateur frontiersman, kept the horn and gun for his posterity.

Boone best enjoyed hunting in the wildest and most untrammelled forest; and the Big Sandy Valley, in the early 1790's was full of game, particularly bears. Their hides were in great demand at Pittsburg, where they were shipped overland to the coast, and on to France. In France bearskins were used by the Grenadiers to grace their immense hats. Boone came to the Big Sandy in 1792; bringing his wife, Rebecca, and his two daughters with their husbands. Here, in the 1790's, according to a Draper manuscript, a forest wanderer found the Boone party. They had no shelter except a half-faced camp. They were eating their meals from a rough wooden tray, set on a bench. Their forks were made from stalks of cane. They had only one butcher knife among them and nothing to eat but bread and the game they killed. Boone told the wanderer who had stumbled upon them that he had just killed the master bear of the western country. It was two feet across its hips. The camp was full of drying bear skins and salted bear meat which the hunters intended to transport to the salt works on the Kanawha River and sell. This was the first stop on the road to France for bearskins.

This year, 1792, was the year before the Auxiers founded Blockhouse Bottom and he could have been acquainted with Samuel Auxier long before the settlement was planned. If so, Boone had invaluable knowledge of one of the greatest bottoms on Big Sandy and could have imparted this knowledge to Auxier. There has always been a tradition, quoted by A.H. Redford in his history of Methodism, that Boone helped found the settlement at the mouth of Johns Creek. We know, of course, that he did not, but his close association with the pioneers of that settlement cannot be excluded from acceptance.

That Boone was at Blockhouse Bottom near the present East Point in the winter of 1796-1797 there is supporting evidence. It was pointed out in the manuscript history of the Auxiers, a carefully prepared and edited work.

Nathaniel Auxier and Boone were friends and often went on hunting expeditions. Nathaniel was only sixteen years old but under the hard school of the border had grown into an intrepid hunter, worth of notice from even the dauntless

Daniel Boone. These two, with other and older men of Blockhouse Bottom, some of whom may have been Harmans, hunted over the area. Greasy Creek was a favorite hunting place due to the abundance of game. On one trip a great quantity was killed, sacked and carried on horseback. Along the way the game left marks of fat upon the trailside trees. Ever after the stream had the name of Greasy Creek. While upon the stream they pitched a camp which became known as Boone's Camp. Its name has been perpetuated by the postoffice of Boone's Camp.

In 1798 Boone went hunting on the Little Sandy River, found a likely spot for a cabin, cleared a few acres and planted a crop of corn. After the crop was in he led a party to the Big Sandy to hunt bear. They killed fifty. Later, that same year he came over into the Big Sandy Valley to hunt but he stayed only a short time, and soon wandered over to East Tennessee and, from there, to Western North Carolina. All the regions over which he had hunted and explored were now filling with people. His lands, much of it the best in Kentucky, was being wrested from him by greedy settlers and still more greedy lawyers. He had gone to inspect some land he had surveyed on the Ohio near the present Greenupsburg; but soon found that one of Kentucky's most outstanding statesman, Col. Richard M. Johnson (later the reputed killer of Tecumseh and, finally, Vice-President of the United States) had stripped him of a vast acreage. About this Boone was extremely bitter.

The man who made possible the opening of Kentucky to settlement was now being slowly pauperized by the land hungry and the lawyers who came when the Indian war whoop was silenced. New Englanders were pouring into Kentucky and of all men he despised them the most. "I don't want ever to live within 100 miles of a damn Yankee," he said. He was now making up his mind to leave Kentucky forever.

Daniel Morgan Boone, his son, had gone to Missouri and was sending back excellent reports of the country. Lieutenant-Governor Trudeau of the area was making special offers through Daniel Morgan Boone to the great frontiersman if he would come west of the Mississippi. There would be a huge land grant for Boone and smaller ones for any others who would accompany him. In 1798 the sheriffs of Mason and Clark counties put up more than 10,000 acres of Boone's land for sale for unpaid taxes. What use was land, Boone said, if it wouldn't yield the taxes? He decided to let it go. Ironical, too, at this time was the creation of Boone County, Kentucky. The state that owed him so much was taking his land away and bestowing his name on a county. Kentucky was offering an honor and taking away the substance of it.

However, before he left Kentucky, he wanted to have a last hunt with his friends in the Big Sandy Valley. He wanted to visit the Auxiers at Blockhouse Bottom and perhaps John Sellards on Buffalo Fork of Johns Creek with whom he had soldiered on the Elk and Kanawha rivers. He may have wanted to say goodbye to William Robert Leslie on Johns Creek and to see how he was doing on the land he had shown him eight years earlier.

We know that Nathan Boone, his son, was with him on this last visit to the Big Sandy, and there is inferential evidence that most of his immediate family accompanied him to Blockhouse Bottom. While there he hunted with Nathaniel Auxier again. He and Nathan, his son, went to visit the salt spring on Middle Creek where he and Hill had camped the winter of 1767-1768. He killed a few

bears and several buffalo and dressed the skins for he envisioned the need of them by the family on the trek west.

On the bank of the Big Sandy near the Auxier settlement a giant poplar grew, thrusting its leafy foliage to the sky. It was several feet in diameter. Boone and his friends cut it down and began the arduous task of making a dugout for the trip west. When the craft was completed it was sixty feet long. Boone said it would carry five tons, an amount sufficient to transport his household goods and family. The furs and hides he had accumulated he stored in the dugout. Removing one of the finest of the buffalo robes he presented it to Sarah Brown Auxier, mother of Nathaniel. (Mrs. Auxier later cut notches in it and formed a sort of basket in which she suspended her infant children from the rafters of the cabin.)

Came the day in September 1799 when Boone was scheduled to leave Blockhouse Bottom. Down at the water's edge the Boones and their friends gathered. All around were the pioneer Auxiers, few, if any, smiling; for they were taking leave of a friend whom they would never see again. Boone took a powder horn from the dugout and presented it to Nathaniel Auxier. In the prow of the giant dugout young Nathan Boone began calling to his father and the famous frontiersman stepped into the craft. A few heafy strokes of the paddle, the river seized the dugout and they were off for a new land.

At Maysville, then Limestone, several others from the Boone family joined the migrating craft. Nathan Boone, however, left the dugout there, went into the Little Sandy River country and married Olive Van Bibber on September 26. Four days later he and his bride joined the others on the dugout and were on their way to Missouri.

The composition of the Boone party moving out onto the breast of the Ohio River is a matter of some doubt with historians. We know that in the dugout were Rebecca Boone; his two sons, Daniel Morgan Boone who had come back from Missouri to accompany his father west, and Nathan Boone; his brothers, Squire Boone; and his daughter, Jemima who had married Flanders Callaway. Some of these other than Nathan may have embarked at Blockhouse Bottom. At Limestone, Boone, with a few white companions and a couple of Negro slaves, began the long overland walk, driving their livestock to what is now the state of Missouri. Flanders Callaway, Boone's son-in-law, probably accompanied the overland party.

Boone's party was received in Louisiana Territory with enthusiasm by the Spanish officials. All were granted land and Boone served in several official capacities in the ensuing two decades. However, his land, granted by Spain, appeared under endless claims, most of them from Kentucky, and legal technicalities. Except for one tract he bought from relatives, Boone, who at one time had in his grasp almost incalculable acres in Kentucky, would have died landless. For many years he had a deep bitterness for Kentucky and its people, but in the years of his old age he mellowed enough to make two short trips back. Both Boone and his wife, Rebecca, were buried on his land in Missouri but a quarter of a century later Kentucky asked for their bodies. Missouri assented and both were moved. They now lie buried in the old Frankfort cemetery overlooking the capital of the state he helped to found.

One biographer calls Boone the Master of the Wilderness, another names him as America's greatest frontiersman. He was a man bred, reared and lived upon the frontier. To him the vast unexplored wilderness with innumerable dangers was life itself. He asked and sought for no other.

PAGES OF THE PAST

By

Jeanette Elswick

(As taken from the Elkhorn City Enterprise, Thursday, May 11, 1972)

The founder of Elkhorn City, Kentucky, was William Ramey, who at the approximate age of 27, migrated here from Virginia. His descendants say that he originally came from the area near Dobson and Mt. Airy (Surry County), North Carolina, from which he moved to Virginia, and eventually to Kentucky. William was an engineer by trade. He surveyed many tracts of land through North Carolina and Virginia, one of which still bears his name, "The Ramey Flats", in Dickenson County, Virginia. The 1810 Floyd County census lists two William Rameys, as well as a Jesse Ramey, a Danial Ramey and a John Ramey. The grantees index of all deeds recorded in Floyd County Kentucky, deed books A and B from 1800 to 1825, affecting land in Pike County and in Letcher County on Elkhorn Creek, show that William Ramey bought 200 acres of land, (Book A, page 354), located on Russell Fork and Elkhorn Creek, from Robert G. and Susan R. Scott, September 24, 1816. So it was about 1810 when William Ramey settled in this rugged valley of Eastern Kentucky.

The name Ramey is French, originally spelled Remy. The earliest Ramey to settle in America was probably Jacques Remy, born about 1630. He was a Huguenot refugee, who came to America as an indentured servant in 1655. In 1671 he and Mary Miles were married. The christian name of Miles, which was the maiden name of Jacob Ramey's wife, has since been bequeathed to Ramey sons and descendants other than Ramey's for generations. Jacob Ramey died prior to 1721, for his will was probated in Westmoreland County, Virginia, December 5, 1721. This same Jacob Ramey is believed to be related to the William Ramey, who settled in Elkhorn City, Kentucky.

The exact location of William Ramey's first home is unknown, but in his will (probated in 1866) he mentioned that some legal papers were burned up in 1838 or 1858 (date not legible). His home, probably a one room log cabin, located near the mouth of Elkhorn Creek, very likely burned at this time.

Long before William Ramey came here, this section was explored and owned by land speculators. Records in the Pike County Courthouse show that Rev. James C. Madison's 1100 acre survey was made December 20, 1790. This was twenty years before William Ramey's arrival. This Rev. James C. Madison, was a cousin to James A. Madison, fourth President of the United States. G. Tom Hawkins, a descendant of Ramey's told an interesting story about William Ramey's wife. He said she was a sister to President James A. Madison. Hawkins also stated he knew the location of her grave on the Elkhorn City Cemetery. It is a fact that the Rev. James C. Madison, first owner of this land was a first cousin to President James A. Madison, but no proof has been found to substantiate the relationship between the Ramey and Madison families.

The 1830 Pike County Census lists a William Ramey and family totaling twelve. (Ramey was spelled Remy in the 1830 census.) There is no possible way of knowing if all listed in the 1830 census are William Ramey's children.

MILTON W. REMINES

By

Mrs. Lee J. Horne (Jessie Ison)

Milton W. Remines was born April 28, 1861 on Elkhorn Creek near Dorton, the son of Harve Remines. He married Jake Sanders daughter. He took his family to Lebanon, Ohio in 1880. He attended National Normal University when Alfred Holbrook's famous teacher-training school was said to be setting standards fifty years ahead of other schools.

He came back to Dorton and taught what was called a subscription school, after the regular school terms of 4 or 5 months closed. He boarded and taught students for \$5 per month. If the students were not able to pay he would take produce from the little mountain farms or wait until they were able to teach, or do other work to pay him. He boarded the pupils in his home. His wife cooked for them, washed and patched their clothes if they needed it. This was called a college and many young folk were beginning to come from Virginia because they wanted a better education. This was just before Pikeville College Academy was founded.

As the reputation of Milton Remines reached Dickerson County, Virginia, he was persuaded to go to Clintwood in 1896. Already, he had been training many Virginia students for teaching. He arranged dormitories to board out of town students who came not only from all parts of Dickerson County but also from Wise and Buchanan Counties in Virginia, Pike and Letcher counties in Kentucky. He named this institution the Clintwood Normal College. He awarded graduation certificates to pupils completing the courses. The courses included such subjects as spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, algebra, descriptive geography, physical geography, U.S. history, general history, physiology, English grammar, drawing, English literature, school law, and civics.

In 1902 the school house burned. They used a church for their classes until a new school, which soon was inadequate, was built. A larger and better building (a 10 room two story frame building), was erected just back of Clintwood Court House, in 1903.

Normal training work was carried on by Mr. Remines until 1909 under the name of Clintwood Normal College. After this it was converted into a regular high school. All this time Professor Remines had campaigned for bigger and better schools, better trained and better paid teachers and more funds. He had an enthusiasm for higher education.

He married the second time at Fleming. He raised another big family and was also a preacher for many years. He was a mountain school leader for 65 years. He was superintendent of schools 1917-1921. He was also a principal and teacher in Dickerson County for 25 years. He came back to Dorton and was First Principal of Dorton High School. Milton Remines died at Clintwood, Virginia, July 23, 1950, at the age of 89.

FIRST SETTLERS ON ROBINSON CREEK

By

Mrs. Jessie Horne's Third Grade Class

The first settlers on Robinson Creek were Mays. The father, Thomas May, came into Kentucky with the last expedition of Daniel Boone explorers and was forced to drop out of the expedition because he had taken typhoid fever. He settled at the place now known as the Willie Riddle Farm. He had a patent on all the land from Shelby to the forks of Robinson Creek. He was the first settler on Shelby Creek.

Thomas May wrote of standing in his cabin door and hearing the screams of the panther, the growl of the bear and the whistle of the deer as they roamed through the almost unbroken wilderness.

The nearest store for buying merchandise was at Louisa. Salt was bought at the Goose Salt Works in Clay County. The salt was carried on horse back over bridle paths that were once buffalo and Indian trails.

The son, Thomas Patton May married Elizabeth Leslie of Johns Creek. To him and his wife were born eight children. Three of their sons fought in the Civil War. Reuben on the Union side, while Harry and David fought on the Confederate side.

Thomas Patton had a daughter, Betty. She married a German doctor that had settled on Little Creek, Dr. Miller. Their daughter, Marian, married Ray Forsythe and lived at the mouth of Sugar Camp, on her grandfather's old home place.

History as Reported by Students

"Sugar Camp" Told by Miram Forsyth to Anna Compton

Sugar Camp was named thus because there were sugar maples at the mouth of the creek and all over the land. They started from the very edge of the creek to the top of the hill. They were so thick that you could hardly walk through them. The May family set up a camp and made maple syrup and sugar.

"Little Robinson Creek" Related by Charlie Jones to Willie Ann Mullins

My great, great grandfather was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian, John Jones. He and his wife came from Virginia in 1800 and settled on Little Robinson. Nathan Jones, John Jones' son, was my great grandfather. He married Charity Cox, also from Virginia, and half Indian. They had six children and Charlie Jones was one of these children. He was my grandfather.

About ninety years ago my great grandfather plowed corn on the hill where the college and the Methodist Hospital is today, working for 25¢ a day.

"How Sookeys Creek got It's Name" Related by Jim R. Miller to Harold Coleman

Sookeys Creek got its name from the first settler, Sukey Toole. He settled on the Creek around 1805.

"Robinson Creek" Related by E.J. Piclesimer to Edna Bentley

Robinson Creek was supposed to have received its name from Joseph Robinson. He was one of the first settlers in the early 1800's and received his land from the government.

"White Slaves" Related by Rachel Osborne Tackett (Indian Creek) to James Mitchell

Slavery was not practiced in Eastern Kentucky very much but on Robinson Creek. The Mays owned a lot of slaves. Solom Hall fell into the hands of those who kept slaves and was sold to one of the Mays. He was forced to do hard work and was beaten many times because he was a white slave and could not take as much as a negro.

"Alvin Hobson" Related by Mary Gipson and others to Mabel Greathouse

Alvin Hobson was on his way to a neighbors to get milk. On the way he found his neighbor lying dead in the road. He was indicted for the killing of this man and put in jail. While waiting for his trial he smoked enough tobacco for his mother to make a quilt from the tobacco sacks. He was tried and found guilty. When he was hung his neck did not break. He was choked to death by the rope.

About a year later one of the men who had done the killing was on his death bed. He told that Alvin was right, that he did not kill the man. He told the witnesses that he and another man had killed the neighbor and let Alvin take the blame.

"Long Fork" Told by Booker Wright to Glenn Tackett

Long Fork gets its name because it is the longest fork on Shelby Creek. The first settlers were William Johnson and William Tackett. They were brother-in-laws. William Tackett received a land grant for the lower half of the fork and William Johnson the upper half.

George Tackett, William's son, had five sons who fought in the Civil War. One son hid out, in what later called the Colliers Rocks. This man was Squire Jack Tackett's father.

During this time the people used pine knots for light. The children held the pine knots at night for their mother to spin and weave. They also had to keep their fires going at all times. They did not have matches. They used oak bark to keep the fire banked or covered all day so it would not go out.

Locky Burke's mother told me of eating their wedding dinner out of bowls cut into the table. Their sifters were made from opossum hides.

Booker Wright told me that when he was in the Spanish-American War, the unit he was with, went from Tennessee to New York, to Portugal on to Cuba and then the Philippine Islands.

During the Civil War there was a rebel army camp at the mouth of Brad's Branch, headed by Jack Ford. The first attack made on Ford's camp was made by Jack Neal, who came through the head of Long Fork. The men from this camp took all the clothes and food from the people, that they could find. So the people hid all they could from them.

At the head of Long Fork, on the left fork, is a gap, called Boone's Gap. This is the way wagons went to Hemphill for goods. It was named Boone's Gap because Daniel Boone's initials were found carved on a large rock there. Also a tree nearby, which read "Bone killed a bar."

"Migration of Tacketts to Kentucky" by Kenneth Tackett

Moses Tackett was a silk raiser in a colony in Georgia. When his silk business failed, he moved to east Tennessee. He was drawn by the talk of the wonderful climate, good soil and abundance of game to be found there. He tied his belongings in a sheet and set out on horseback, over Indian and buffalo trail, to a new home. He settled in east Tennessee, cleared a plot of land and built a pole house.

Their son, William, came to explore Kentucky, after he had heard how wonderful it was. After he settled, in what is now Harlan, he went back to bring Mose and his mother to Kentucky. Again they packed their household goods in a sheet and set out over the mountain trails to Kentucky. Mose was riding a young mare. The sheet rubbed against a tree, scaring the mare; she jumped and Mose fell off and broke his neck.

William made gun powder and peddled it out among the pioneers. On one of his trips he passed down Shelby Creek. Upon his return to his home in Harlan County, he sold his farm. He returned to Long Fork of Shelby Creek in 1817, buying a farm. He lived there until he died in 1850.

In 1820, he rode to Missouri on horseback to see his daughter, Patty, who had married there. He brought Patty and her husband back with him. He was gone over two months. While he was gone his wife and daughter, Sarah, stayed by themselves. They had only two neighbors on Long Fork, W.M. Johnson and Daniel Tally.

William was a strong man physically. He had many fist fights on the frontier, always winning. In the early days men had to meet to "muster" or train. William was sent to look over the younger boys. Joe Bryant, a boasting bully, met him at the edge of the crowd, and said that he was going to whip him. William tried to talk him out of it but nothing would satisfy Joe but to fight. So William turned his cheek to Joe and told him to hit him. He did. Then he turned the other cheek and Joe hit him again. Then William said, "I have obeyed the laws of man and God and now I'm going to whip you." Then he proceeded to do so.

Rebecca Tackett, daughter of William, married James Cook. Their son, Billy, was a skilled mechanic. He made a drilling rig and drilled a salt well 960 feet deep near the sulphur spring on Long Fork.

"Collier Rock"

Collier Rock is located on top of a hill where three branches of Long Fork come together. The rock looks like a big ship, sixty or seventy feet long. It

can be seen from almost any place on Long Fork. The rock gets its name from a man named Collier. He lived in a cave there to keep out of the Civil War. Many men did the same thing.

"Shelby and Shalbiana" As told to Elmer Mullins by Ed England

Shelby Creek was named for Isaac Shelby, first governor of Kentucky. The land where Shalbiana is now was settled by an Adkins family. After they had lived there a few years the entire family except one son, Sherman, died with the flu. They were buried in the cemetery now known as Ratliff's Cemetery at Shalbiana. The son had a stone mason erect a wall of stone around the graves. It is still standing today.

A man by the name of Shady Ratliff came through from Virginia on his way to Mount Sterling, with stock to sell at a market there. He stopped at Sherman's to feed and water his stock. Sherman told him he wanted to sell his farm, which contained about 3900 acres. Ratliff told him that he would talk to him on his way back to Virginia.

In about five weeks he came back and bought the land for \$20,000.00, more or less, in gold and silver coins. Some people say that neither Sherman nor his money was ever seen or heard of again.

Shady Ratliff had a son, R.W. and after Shady died he took over the farm. He farmed the land until 1902, when the C&O Railroad came through.

The house, which the Adkines built and the Ratliffs also lived in, is still standing, on the left of the road as you go into Shalbiana. It has been rebuilt several times, but still has the two log rooms in it that the Adkines built.

Editor's Note

Edmond Ison settled at the mouth of Marshall's Branch near the Letcher County line, but some of his "generation" (including Mrs. Horne) have lived on Robinson Creek. They have been well respected.

Unfortunately, they have been plagued with eye problems. Mrs. Horne wrote in 1970, "Many of the Isons had a hereditary eye disease called 'Retinitis Pigmentosa', that left them blind. Carl Breeding, whose mother is an Ison, and is blind, has made a study of what might possibly be the cause. He found that this disease was in the offsprings of the individuals where Ison's had married Stampers or Breedings. Carl, after teaching for twenty-nine years, was forced to retire, because of this disease. He is now participating in an experiment with the New York University to try and find a treatment for this rare eye disease, which has plagued the Ison generation for ages."

STEAM BOATS ON THE BIG SANDY RIVER

By

Dan Wheeler

Following is a list of some of the "Steam Boats" that used to run on the Big Sandy River during the Civil War and up to about 1908. This list was compiled on March 1, 1954.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| RED BUCK | Side Wheel |
| Ran during the Civil War. | |
| ROVER | Side Wheel |
| MOUNTAIN BOY | Stern Wheel |
| MOUNTAIN GIRL | Stern Wheel |
| One of the "Mountain Boats" made at least one trip with what was known as a "Mocking Bird Whistle", which created much excitement as part of the time it sounded like a wild panther. Many people near the river were scared. The forest at that time extended to the river in most of the valley. The whistle was soon removed. | |
| INGIMAR (INGAMAR) | Stern Wheel |
| TOM SPURLOCK | Stern Wheel |
| FANNIE FREESE | Stern Wheel |
| JOE NEWMAN | Side Wheel (?) |
| JERRY OSBORNE | Side Wheel |
| FRANK PRESTON | Stern Wheel |
| MARY L. HATCHER | Stern Wheel (?) |
| ANDY HATCHER Built 1870 | Stern Wheel |
| Burned at the waters edge near the mouth of Paint Creek. | |
| VAN METER | Stern Wheel |
| One of the most beautiful boats on the river, was well constructed and very powerful. | |
| HOMER B. Tow and Packet | Stern Wheel |
| FAVORITE Built 1870 | Side Wheel |
| The Favorite sank near the mouth of George's Creek between 4:00 and 5:00 a.m. March 1, 1897, after having collided with a big tree that had lodged in the middle of the river on what is known as the "George's Creek Sand". All on board were saved by crawling out on the branches of the tree. Three men swam ashore even though the water was very cold and rough. My cousin, Lizzie Syck Walters, was a passenger. | |
| SANDY VALLEY | Side Wheel |
| VIRGIE RATLIFF | Side Wheel |
| JENNIE GEORGE | Side Wheel |
| Sank in Buffalo Shoal, but was later raised and run again. | |
| J.C. HOPKINS | Side Wheel |
| J.C. HOPKINS No. 2 | Side Wheel |
| ALEX YOST | Side Wheel |
| MAXIE YOST | Side Wheel |
| FAIR PLAY | Side Wheel |
| SEA GULL | Side Wheel |
| SIP BAYES | Side Wheel |

| | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|
| BEULAH BROWN | | Side Wheel |
| THEALKA | | Side Wheel |
| Sunk by ice between White House and Richardson (after 1911). | | |
| LAYNESVILLE | | Side Wheel |
| CRICKET | | Stern Wheel |
| One of the few boats to have electric lights and no doubt the only one on the river to have a "steam calliope". | | |
| ECLIPSE | | Stern Wheel |
| Very fast but too narrow for so much speed. | | |
| CANDO | | Stern Wheel |
| DONCA | | Stern Wheel |
| ARGAND | | Stern Wheel |
| By far the largest boat to run the river. | | |
| H.M. STAFFORD | | Side Wheel |
| The smallest "steam boat" to run the river. | | |
| GUYANDOTTE | | Side Wheel |
| GERALDINE | | ? Wheel |
| JIM MONTGOMERY | Tow and Packet | Stern Wheel |
| VINCENNES | Tow and Packet | Stern Wheel |
| KATIE MACK | Tow and Packet | Stern Wheel |
| CHAMPION | Tow and Saw | Stern Wheel |
| Burned at the waters edge near the mouth of John's Creek. | | |
| J.H. MCCONNELL | Tow | Stern Wheel |
| One of the most powerful Tow Boats on the river. | | |
| J.M. GRUBBS | Tow | Stern Wheel |
| YELLOW DOG | Tow | Stern Wheel |
| Owned and operated by the Yellow Poplar Lumber Company to handle their fleets of timber and to transport lines and chain dogs up the river. | | |
| SEA LION | Tow | Stern Wheel |
| FLEETWING | Tow | Stern Wheel |
| B.F. JOHNSON | (Gasoline Powered) | Side Wheel |

I have compiled the above list from memory and information given me by my parents and others in my boyhood days. I have seen most of these boats and been on many of them. I owned a one-third interest in the "Steamer Thealka" and worked for a few years on same.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| OIL HUNTER | | Side Wheel |
| ED C. KIRKER | | Side Wheel |
| JOHN F. HATTON | | Side Wheel |
| JOSIE HARKINS | (Burned down) | Side Wheel |
| FASHION | Blew up in the mouth of Big Sandy | Side Wheel |
| SALLIE FREESE | Owned by Cap. Milt Freese | Side Wheel |
| BIG SANDY | Captain Wm. Vaughan | Side Wheel |
| IDA SMITH | | Stern Wheel |
| LOUISA | | Side Wheel |
| MILES H. | | Stern Wheel |
| EDNA RILEY | Built by Capt. Tom Vaughan | Stern Wheel |
| J.B. DAVIS | Owned by Capt. John Davis | Stern Wheel |
| CATHERINE DAVIS | Tow | Stern Wheel |
| Operated by Capt. Wm. Smiley | | |
| GREENDALE | | Stern Wheel |
| NATCHEZ | | Stern Wheel |

Most of the above names were furnished Dan Wheeler by a former pilot on the Big Sandy and Ohio Rivers. Capt. Hughes was the one that played the "Steam calliope" on the "Steamer Cricket" while plying the waters of Big Sandy River.

STEAMER TOM HACKNEY

Side Wheel

Owned and operated by Capt. A.C. Bowles, who also owned the Jerry Osborne. According to old records, this boat appeared very hideous and was a monster in the early 1850's.

STEAMER TOM SCOTT

Owned and operated by Daniel Vaughan in 1852.

STEAMER AID

Owned by Daniel Vaughan, operated by W. Fuse Davidson in 1852.

STEAMER MAJOR O'DRAIN

Owned by Daniel Vaughan but was commanded by James R. Hatcher in 1860.

DR. YORK

JERRY OSBORNE NO. 2

BELLEVUE

DEXTER

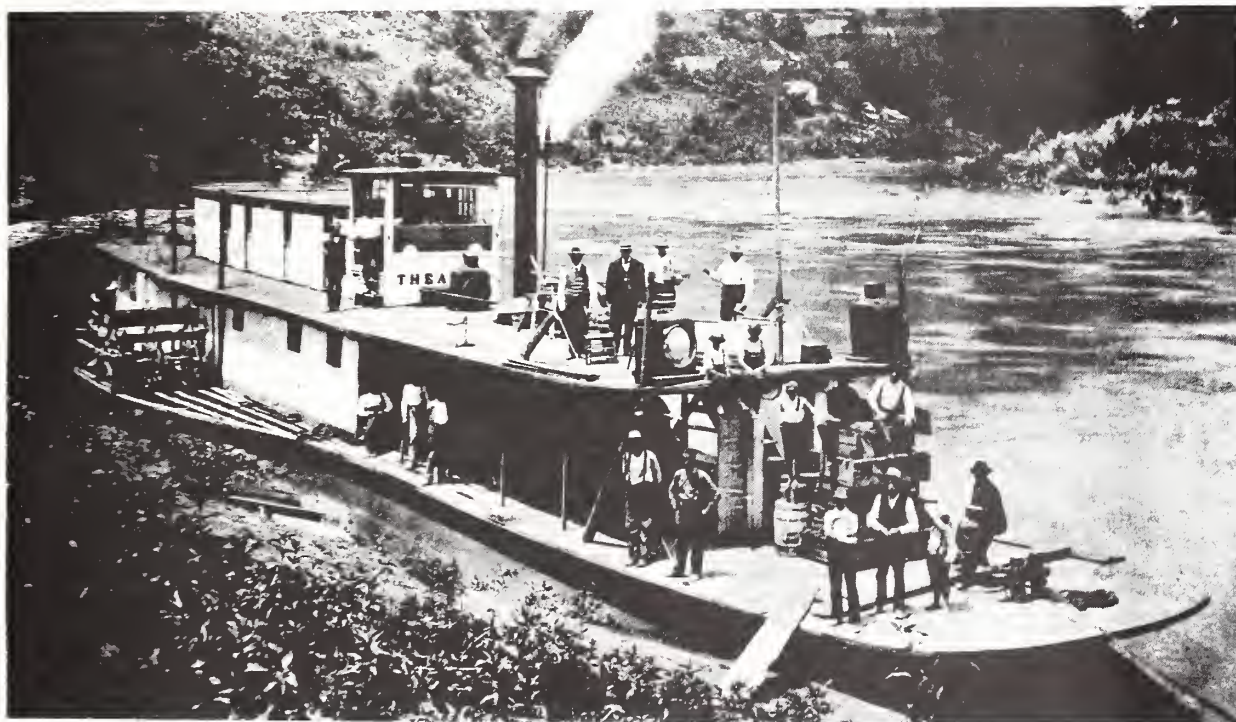
MAY FLOWER

HENRY M. CHILES

About 1862 James A. Garfield came up the Big Sandy on the "Henry M. Chiles" to Pikeville, Ky. He was a colonel in the U.S. Army at that time.

STEAMER BANNER

Was operated by Capt. Cummings in 1863



Boatin' The Big Sandy

Verses 1, 2, 4, 6.



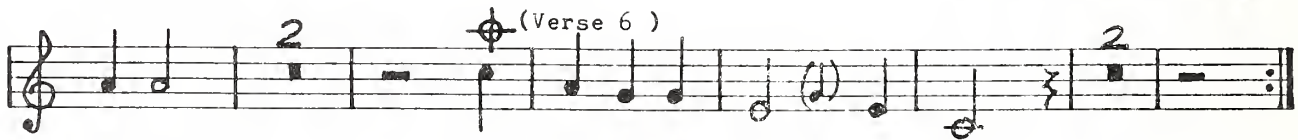
1. I live on Big San - dy Riv-er

From



Rock-cas-tle Coun-ty I came

'I work on Bill Ly- on's



push-boat

Gabe Staf-ford they call my name.

Verses 3, 5.



3. We pushed round the curve at Fish-trap

with backs bent o'er the



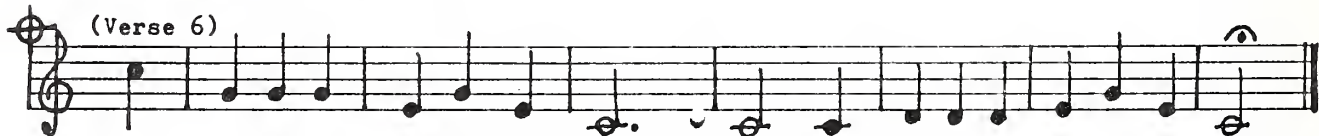
poles to keep her from graz-ing the sand-bar

and



wreck-ing our prec- ious tow.

(Verse 6)



We eat and we sleep when we can

we eat and we sleep when we can.

2. When folks they sold him their ginseng
On hauling such loads Bill was bent
We loaded our boat with its tonnage
And away down the Sandy we went.

5. It was dark when we passed the old gristmill
That sets at the falls of Big Blaine
We sure was a tired bunch of sinners
But never a man did complain.

4. Then down past the point at Louisa
Where the Tug and Levisa Forks meet
And Bill played a jig on his banjo
While we rested and took time to eat.

6. This is the life of the river
The song of the pushboatin' band
We love who we please and as often
We eat and we sleep when we can
We eat and we sleep when we can.

This song was handed down to Johnnie Sanders, the collector, by Thaddis Ratliff, who heard it from his father, William Ratliff of Elkhorn City, who worked on a flat-boat. Taken from the Appalachian Studies Center Archives, Pikeville College.

PIKEVILLE'S FIRST WATER SYSTEM

The first water supply in Pikeville was obviously ponds, or springs. As late as 1900 the area to the northwest of College Street was a sprawling pond lying between what is now Elm Street and Huffman Avenue. The outlet drained past the present fire station through an open ditch running on past the Public School and onward to the river, paralleling Cline Street. The older residents related how the original pond area was covered by a cane brake interspersed with huge sweetgum trees. This pond was used primarily for watering live stock and in the winter season it provided a safe skating pond.

From this situation the next step to provide water for the homes built on higher ground was the hand-dug well. Soon, in addition to the wells, cisterns were dug in the ground and walled with home made bricks. Since the cisterns were supplied from roof-drained rainfall, the water was always "soft" and completely free from minerals or salts that prevented formation of suds in the laundry water and this was favorable because the only available soap was homemade lye soap that did not lather freely. Such lye soap was made from all available hog fats treated with lye leached from wood ashes.

When cisterns came into use, special pumps were provided. Water stored in the cisterns became "flat" from lack of a continuing oxygen supply to vitalize, or aerate the water. The cistern pump consisted of an endless belt, or chain, of small buckets each holding about a pint. The bucket chain passed over a crank operated toothed wheel about a foot in diameter. As each bucket of water passed over the wheel the water poured into a small trough leading to the vessel to be filled. The ingenious aerating feature lay in the small buckets passing downward filled with air then at the lowest range of the bucket chain, water rushed into the buckets and the air was released to go bubbling up through the cistern water. At this time there were no bored or drilled wells. The cisterns continued in use for a few years after a city-wide water system was created. Even today one such cistern is in operating condition at the home of the late Mrs. J.J. Moore on Second Street. The top of another such cistern is exposed at the base of the large central elm tree in the city park.

When the pioneer homes did not have a well or cistern, drinking water was carried from a neighboring home that had a water supply. In some homes river water was used for all purposes and was provided by some enterprising individual for 10 cents per barrel. The common practice was to stand three wooden barrels in a farm wagon then drive into the river and fill the barrels with a bucket. Each barrel was covered with burlap held in place by a hoop to prevent water from sloshing out. At the delivery point, the water was again bucketed out into a receiving barrel at the home. Such barrels were placed on the side and a square hole was made in the top side to accomodate a small bucket.

The first water system for the town was developed by two enterprising Cox brothers who came to Pikeville to build this system prior to the building of the railroad. The first supply of pipe was transported by push-boats

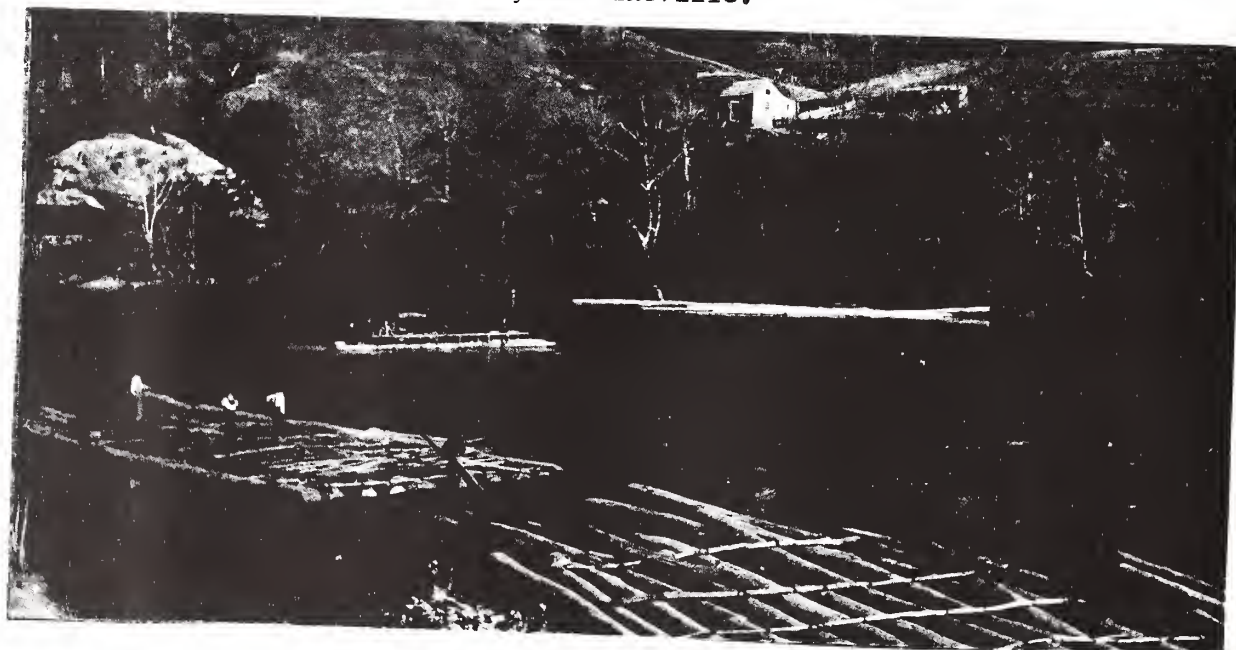
from Whitehouse (about 50 miles down stream). The iron pipe was an innovation at the time, being constructed by riveting metal strips in a spiral form but probably its most attractive feature was its relatively low cost. Compression joints were made with rubber gaskets. Water pressure was too high for the type of pipe used and over the years many repairs were necessary.

Pressure for the system was obtained by building a stone reservoir on the mountain directly across the river from the present pumping plant on Bank Street. The old reservoir still exists even though it was used only for a comparatively few years. To aid construction, two cables were stretched from the reservoir site to the bank on the opposite side of the river. When one bucket was loaded with excavated material and run down the cable the second bucket loaded with building material was pulled up to the reservoir site. To the small boys this was a wonder of wonders.

The reservoir was located in a small valley so that rainfall would provide a part of the needed water. A steam operated pump at the river provided the remainder. The noisy steam pump exhaust could be heard all over town.

Water was furnished to the homes through a single faucet in the yard, at a flat rate of charge. Water pressure was so great that when a bucket was filled the air forced into the water made the liquid as white as milk.

After a time, Cox Brothers sold the systems to some local business men organized as The Mountain Water Company. Of course, after the water system came into use a sewage disposal system was built and kitchen sinks and bathrooms soon followed. The sewer system was a dismal financial failure and when the water system was disposed of the sewerage system was included as a subtle gift. In later years when pipe lines needed renewal and water pollution became a reality the Mountain Water Company sold its facilities to the city of Pikeville.



FIRST POWER PLANT IN PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY

By

Frank J. Forsyth, Sr.

At the turn of the century, industrial development in and around Pikeville was making rapid progress. The people became aware of several improvements that the community should have. In 1900, the town had no water system, no sanitation, no electricity, no telephone, no paved streets, no public entertainment, no library, and so on and so on. In fact, Pikeville, a settlement of 49 persons (1830 census), had grown to 508 individuals by 1900. At this time, the town had a public school and a high school (Pikeville Collegiate), which was the beginning of Pikeville College.

About this time, there came to Pikeville two young dentists, Drs. J.D. Meade and Dr. A.S. Reese. A short time after establishing their joint office (fully equipped with foot-powered drills) they realized that the town should have an electric power plant, and they proceeded to do something about the situation.

In those days life was unhurried and everybody had time to spend a few minutes in friendly conversation with their neighbors. The social life of the town was nourished by informal gatherings (loafing) in the several stores that remained open every week-day night. These gatherings were, in effect, "town hall meetings" of an informal nature where all topics of interest were discussed, debated and disposed of as far as practicable. One of the favored meeting places was Rutroff's Jewelry Store on Division Street and it was at these meetings that the electric power plant feasibility study was given priority and where almost no one knew anything about the subject under discussion.

However, Drs. Meade and Reese had decided to build a plant, and Dr. Reese, having studied for a time in the Engineering Department at the University of Kentucky, knew what was involved. It is doubtful anyone realized the effect on the gaping small fry sitting spellbound by the discourses on steam boilers, fireboxes, piping, steam pressures, expansion joints, generators and whatnot. It was finally decided that a duplicate installation would be made of engine and generator so that the units could be operated alternately and thereby insure dependable service. The actual installation consisted of two 250 volt D.C. generators driven by two of the smoothest running little Skinner engines imaginable, operated by suitable boilers. The plant was located on the back of lot 407 Second Street, where the Sanitary Dry Cleaners now stand.

When first put in service, the plant was operated from about dusk to bedtime or until it was time to "take the sidewalks in for the night." Street lighting was accomplished by installing eight or ten carbon arc lamps at street intersections. The lamps were supported over the center of the street crossings and arranged to be lowered for servicing, about twice weekly, by means of a small rope and pulley arrangement secured at the base of a nearby pole. These arc lamps were globe enclosed and rated at 2000 candle power. Such a rating was more or less meaningless due to variables. However, they were a vast

improvement over the original three oil lamps located at 407 Main Street, in front of the old Connolly House, another on Main Street in front of the Williamson Hotel just above the county court house and the third one located near 222 College Street. These original oil lamps were kept in so-called operating condition by the Town Marshal. About dark the Marshal could be seen ambling along to light each of the lamps and, of course they were supposed to be turned out at daybreak, or thereabouts. A lamp left burning during daylight furnished a juicy topic for conversation.

The charge for electric lighting was on a flat-rate basis, fifty cents for each "Drop" light (a single open 16-candle power carbon lamp suspended from the ceiling). They were wonderful as compared to an ordinary kerosene lamp. In Pikeville, the first attempt to meter the use of electricity was by the electrolytic method. The current used was passed through an electrolyte contained in a glass cylindrical container about 12" long and 2 1/2" in diameter. The reduction in the liquid level determined the kilowatt hours used. Only a few of the meters were used and they were soon abandoned as being too messy and too troublesome, for obvious reasons.

The original electric plant was installed about 1903 and the equipment was hauled to Pikeville by ox teams. As indicated in the foregoing, the generators produced 250 volts direct current. It was gradually learned that suitable voltage for maintaining good lighting could not be sustained except for comparatively short distances mainly dependent on load conditions and size of conductors. To overcome this objectionable feature the plant was replaced by an alternating current system erected across the railroad track, on Hellier Street. This plant was built by the Sandy Valley Light and Power Company, owned by Mr. L.L. Stone and his brother Ed Stone.

Not long after this plant was put in use, about the World War I era, a freight elevator was being installed in Pikeville and was to be operated by a three-phase motor. The two generators in the power plant produced suitable current but they had been operated alternately and the two had never been matched, or "phased-out", so that both would produce the same rotation of motors. The elevator installer went home out of town over the week ends and on his return he could not understand why his elevator controls operated backward. He brought his troubles to the Power Company and said that he just could not understand why anyone would try to play a trick like that on him; the "up" button brought the elevator down and the "down" button brought the elevator up. No comment was made other than an expression of amazement that such a thing could happen. The next day the generators were "phased-out" in a matter of minutes and no more complaints were heard on that score.

The plant described above was eventually bought by the T.N. Huffman interests and was moved to the Pikeville Ice Company plant on Park Street where a modern turbine driven generator was installed. Later the Sandy Valley Light and Power Company was sold to the Consolidation Coal Company of Jenkins, Ky. At that time Consolidation Coal Company was furnishing power from the Jenkins plant to much of Beaver Creek, Paintsville, Van Lear and Prestonsburg. It is presumed that the Pikeville system was purchased to fit into the Coal Company's plans but not long thereafter the Sandy Valley Light and Power Company was sold to the Kentucky-West Virginia Power Company, where the ownership remains.

PIKEVILLE M.E. CHURCH
410 Main Street
Circa 1900

Responses to a recent radio broadcast relative to the Methodist Episcopal Church on lower Main Street, revived memories of some personal episodes in which the old M.E. Church played a part.

Ely's History of the Big Sandy Valley indicates that the church structure was erected about the mid-eighteen hundreds. Available records show that Sunday Schools were conducted there in 1885-1890 era, probably for a much longer period than that. In 1883 the Presbyterian Church of Pikeville was organized there and services were held there about 5 years thereafter. Sunday Schools conducted there were carefully and faithfully reported by the secretary Mr. Lewis Dils who had been a company clerk for the 39th Kentucky Volunteers during the war between the States. It was the writer's good fortune to see the secretary's Sunday School records and they gave as full a detailed account of the sessions as would be expected of present day minutes of any business meeting. As for the structure, the same building that was there in 1900 is still there although somewhat obscured as No. 410 Main Street. Shortly after 1900 the forward part of the church building caught fire but was saved by a concerted community effort. At that time Pikeville was a small community of 500 people without any water system or fire department. However, there was an everpresent fire alarm procedure that was most effective. Anyone detecting a house on fire immediately began to shout "fire!" "fire" "fire'." and many guns were discharged, there seemed to be an ample supply available, thus arousing the entire community, regardless of the time of day. Remember, there were no telephones, no organized fire department, no water system, no electric lights, but there was no shortage of instant and appropriate action. The statement just made that there was "no fire department" is not quite true.

This is the way fire fighting was practiced: at the first alarm every citizen, and that means everyone, would grab at least two buckets or whatever could be used for carrying water. A line of men and boys would quickly form from the scene of the fire and extend to the river. The river banks were barren of trees and shrubbery in those days and the bucket line would pass filled buckets from man to man thus forming a conveyor system. One who has never seen a "bucket line" in operation can have no conception of the inconceivably large quantity of water delivered. Seldom did the owner ever recover his buckets, but any two would do.

Well, now let us get back to the fire. This church fire was discovered sometime after dark and the whole town responded, as usual, and the flickering blaze gave a measure of light in the surrounding area. The flames inside the building were brought under control without much difficulty but the fire had worked its way upward into the bell tower and steeple of the church. Consequently, the men had to climb onto the roof and a very few of the more reckless went even farther and stood in the small gutter or ledge, surrounding the steeple so that they could splash water onto the blazing shingles above.

After this had been going on for some time a small rather shrill voice was heard from about the middle of the street directly in front of the building. The voice shouted "Hey Pappy" and again "Hey Pappy" and for several times more.

After a considerable pause an angry, aggravated voice from the tower said "What do you want?" In quick response the shrill voice in the street shouted, "Mommy says for you to get down from there."

Some years later the nearby home of Mr. W.K. Elliott (the father of Mrs. E.S. Shurtleff was burned, being set on fire by the burning of the old Connolly Hotel annex. So, the M.E. Church and Mr. Elliott made a trade in property and a new church building was erected (presently the Main Street Church of Christ). Mr. Elliott made the church into a dwelling, now 410 Main Street.

The old church bell originally given to the church by Lewis L. Dils was moved to the new building, and it is understood that in recent years it has been installed in the present Methodist Church building at the south end of Main Street.

Prior to World War I, it was customary for some of our dedicated and devout religious leaders to deliver short sermons, or addresses at the court house corner in the evenings. At that period there were no traffic problems to interrupt the services. Sinners were really reminded of the error of their ways and what they should do about it; and these speakers preached directly from the Bible. One of these preachers was Aunt Georgia Adams, a well-educated devout Methodist. Some others were Allan Cline, Gene Robinson, and Wilson Michaels. This writer was once pointedly corrected by Aunt Georgia when he just happened to refer to the North M.E. Church. Aunt Georgia promptly corrected this by saying, "Why, honey, there is only one M.E. Church."

The local churches have been so intimately connected with the community that there are numerous memories that can be revived. Some sorrowful, such as the tolling of the bell when the funeral procession moved from the church, or some happy memories. A near comical incident was brought about away back when, as related in the foregoing, there was no water system, no lights, no fire department, and so forth. At this particular time protracted evangelistic meetings were being held in the old M.E. Church. The church building was loaned to this group for their meetings and there was enthusiasm and in their ardor participants seized the bell rope and aroused the whole neighborhood - that couldn't be anything but a fire alarm! The next day the writer was on Second Street and met Mr. John Bentley (Lucille Pinson's father), figuratively fire was in his eyes. He said he ought to bring suit against those people, that he was going before the town council and have an ordinance passed to prevent bell ringing so late at night. Finally the truth came out; when the bell sounded, Bentley, thinking only of a fire alarm, jumped from bed and in the darkness stuck both of his legs through the rounds of a straight back chair!

(No ordinance was ever passed.)

THE LOST STONE AND THE NEW CHURCH

By

Kizzie Thornbury

It was thirty-four years ago,
We built the first new church
In the little town of Pikeville;
The Scriptures there were searched.

THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

By

F. J. Forsyth, Sr.

The "Unknown Soldier" who was buried in this grave by the side of the road, in May 1865, has created a mystery that remains unsolved. A bit of information here and a bit there has suggested a continuous chain of circumstances that at least provide a logical sequence of events. Some of the source material came down through the family whose head had talked to the soldier, (from father to son to grandson) and had advised him to re-route his planned trip and thereby, innocently, the stage was set for the tragedy. Curiously, the victim has remained nameless although that fact can be explained. Perhaps, the soldier calling at the home of Mr. Richard Potter on the mountain top asked for directions and being eager to continue his homeward journey never even gave his name.

Now let us go back to the beginning. What little is known about this tragedy indicates that the confederate soldier had been mustered out of service, or possibly was a released prisoner of war somewhere to the north of us. The soldier's home was in one of the Carolinas, and since Big Sandy River extends almost due south, it was logical that he chose the Big Sandy Valley as the most favorable route. There is some evidence that when he was in the vicinity of Marrowbone Creek he encountered a local man, and it is probable the soldier told where he was going, and maybe asked directions.

After this meeting it is thought the local man, with evil intentions, decided to follow the soldier. Hastily gathering a companion or two the pursuit was started. By taking known short cuts and traveling ten or twelve miles they came out on Grassy Creek, but were a little too late to intercept the soldier. Being hunters and woodsmen, only a glance was needed to show the tracks of the soldier. They then proceeded along the trail, or maybe started homeward realizing their quarry had outdistanced them, not knowing that the soldier would be retracing his steps. Obviously, the home-bound soldier did not waste any time talking to Mr. Potter and, as already mentioned, this may explain why the victim remains nameless. Probably, the pursuers heard someone coming along the pathway and hastily stepped into the underbrush from where they recognized the soldier and shot him.

Later, Mr. Potter told of advising the soldier traveler to re-trace his steps to the mouth of Elkhorn Creek and there on the State Road he would find more favorable travel conditions. With this in mind the soldier unmindful of danger was returning along the trail but got no further than this spot where he was killed.

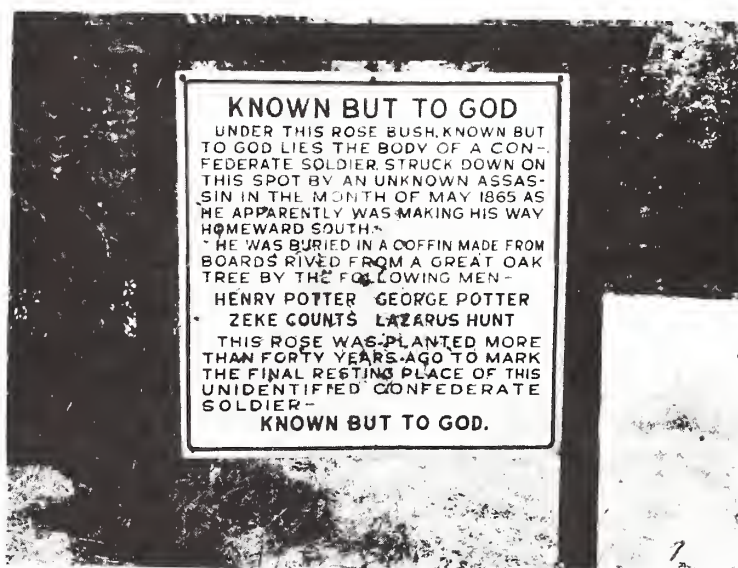
During the afternoon, a Mr. Swinney and a companion found the dead man and aroused the sparsely settled neighborhood to help bury the victim. No lumber was available for a coffin, so a nearby chestnut, or chestnut oak, tree was felled and boards were rived (split) from a section of the trunk. This part of the burial preparations were attended to by Henry Potter, Zeke Counts, George Potter and Lazarus Hunt. Some of the women removed the man's shirt and washed it for his burial. There was some discussion among the men as to the folly of burying the good boots on the victim, and no one getting any use from such serviceable

footwear. One of them said that since the boots were of a suitable size that he would just swap, and that was done. A good watch on the dead soldier was preserved also, but the disposal of the watch is not known.

The community opinion was freely expressed as to the identity of the killer, but naming names can do no good now. Knowing who was the guilty party was one thing, but proving him to be guilty would have been quite another.

What possible motive could have been responsible for the act? If robbery had been the motive the watch would have been taken. War Hatred? Possibly. The widely expressed judgement was that the soldier had been brutally murdered. Those were troubled years and possibly one more killing made little impact.

This road-side marker dedicated to "The Unknown Soldier", has been erected to bestow perpetual honor on those devoted soldiers of the period who offered their lives for that which they believed to be right.



Editor's Note:

Also, on Route US 80, about a mile down the Russell Fork of Big Sandy River, below Elkhorn City, there is another interesting spot.

Clyde Mullins tells of a man being driven by Indians to a huge rock in the river. In desperation he dived below the rock and discovered a cave. The Indians finally left, thinking he had been drowned.

The rock is now a wayside picnic spot.

THE PHELPS MATTHEW T. SCOTT ACADEMY

By

Anna Dotson Pinson, Ph.D.

In 1893, Ebenezer Presbytery undertook a work in the mountains in the extreme portion of Kentucky in Pike County. The late Dr. S.D. Boggs, then pastor of the Catlettsburg Church, and chairman of Home Missions, was the moving spirit, visiting the field and preaching.

Work was begun at Argo, Kentucky, on Knox Creek under the shade of a large wild grape arbor. At that time some opposition to the work was manifested by a lawless element, which was not very large, and was kept under control by the best people. For a number of summer months, both Argo and Phelps, seven miles distant, a Sunday School and Church service was maintained by students from one of the Seminaries.

In 1896, a church building was erected at Argo at a very little cost to the Presbytery, as much material and labor were donated by the citizens, particularly by Mr. Shepard. In memory of this good man and faithful Christian the church, which was organized in 1896 bears the name of Shepard Memorial. Some years later the Highland Presbyterian Church of Louisville, Kentucky, built a cottage for this mission for the workers. Since then the friends in Louisville maintained the mission, supplying everything for the comfort of the workers. They maintained the support of the teacher in the day school in the church building. This school was for the younger children of the neighborhood, and was open ten months. The children were taught more than what was found in text books. Daily contact with a Christian teacher, and training for occasional public exercises in Sunday services, helped mightily in the influence of the school. The teachers worked faithfully in the building up of the Sunday School. Also, the music ministry was outstanding.

Matthew T. Scott, Jr., Academy, started in 1904, located at Phelps, Kentucky, was under the direction of the late Rev. Alfred Erickson, who was pastor also ministering to the people of Argo and Phelps. Here the Peter Creek Church was organized in 1898.

This school, together with the two churches, has exercised an influence for good in all this section. One can hardly realize what the church and Christian school has done in these mountains. There were many ups and downs, but the work went on, and gradually the church aroused the people and they became aware of the opportunity for service in this field.

All the members of the faculty entered into the spirit of the work, visiting in the homes and helping in the religious services. The congregation entered the new church building in May, 1924, the first one in the Phelps field. It was built of the beautiful blue native sandstone.

The workmen and students co-operated and worked well on school projects such as this stone church. A gang of Italians came in and drilled holes in a cliff on the mountain side across the creek from where the church stands. They charged the holes with black powder and hooved out a large pile of beautiful stone. They all went to work with hammers and chisels, laughter and

jabbering. They turned out the nicest stone blocks the people of the area had ever seen and built a beautiful church.

Phelps school owned a team of mules, old white Bob was the leader. The mules were hooked to a sled and the older boys at the school hauled the stone blocks to the church location. Some of the boys worked half their way in school, some worked all their keep and some paid their way. The girls did cooking, cleaning, washing, ironing, canning, and domestic work to help pay their keep. Some paid their way, some paid part and some could not pay any.

All the grades through high school were taught. Daily Bible classes in all grades were required. Practical domestic science and some practical farming were taught. Many students commuted to and from school by horse back and mule back. Most of the road was the creek bed. The students worked and lived there together, a group of boys and girls wanting to get an education.

Professor Erickson taught us: (1) To obey God and study the Bible; (2) To work; (3) To live with our fellow man. There are many heart warming stories, perhaps it is best that some never be told.

The farm of seventy-five acres enabled the school to supply some food for the table and for stock. Besides the cultivated land, the farm had an orchard of many apple trees, some small fruit, such as grape vineyards and berries. There was also considerable woodland of valuable timber. The boys at Phelps High School did the farm work. They also took care of the chickens, animals, and milking.

The capacity for boarding students, in 1924, was thirty-five, and there were also quarters for all the faculty. The improvements later enabled the school to room at least eighty persons, and gave them an infirmary and community building.

Pupils who attended Phelps Academy have become: Teachers, School Administrators, Pharmacists, Doctors, Nurses, Soldiers, Lawyers, Accountants, Mining Engineers, General Business Managers, Ministers, Business Executives, and Business Administrators. Many have made model homes and are serving in all walks of life.

The school and church were destined to do a great work in the rich and rapidly developing coal field. The school was at the strategic spot in this section. A survey, in 1922, of the eastern half of Pike County showed a population of almost 16,000. There were forty distinct communities, and twenty-five coal operations. Vast portions of coal areas were not yet open in 1922. A new county road was being projected up Peter Creek in 1924. The road was completed a few years later and was a valuable asset (because our nearest railroad station was five miles away). All this indicated a great future.

Within a radius of twelve miles of Phelps there were 9,000 people and 15 coal plants in 1924. Phelps was the only Presbyterian work in the area. There was only two other Sunday Schools in that section of Kentucky, besides Argo and Phelps.

Such work as this demanded the interest and support of friends. The school was dependent upon support for general maintenance, for scholarships to assist

worthy students, and for any addition to the plant. Churches, societies, Sunday Schools, and individuals have helped in the work.

In 1918, the children of Eliza J. Gartrell erected an attractive bungalow for the use of Mr. and Mrs. Erickson, or their successors. This was a memorial to this friend of the school, and was known as the Eliza J. Gartrell Cottage.

In 1923, the Spears family of Paris, Kentucky, provided a sum of money for the erection of a memorial to their mother; this was a place to care for the sick of the school and community.

In 1912, Dr. Boggs, and Dr. Blanton, Chancellor of Centre College, enlisted the interest of the late Mrs. Matthew T. Scott, Bloomington, Illinois, one-time President General of the National Society D.A.R. Through her generosity a new dormitory and domestic building was erected and seventy-five acres of land secured. Since then, Mrs. Scott made many generous contributions and enlisted the interest of several D.A.R. Societies. In 1923, Mrs. Scott passed away. She provided in her will a sum of money to take care of four permanent scholarships for students in the medical field.

Phelps school was put on the list of schools endorsed by the N.S.D.A.R. Some Societies in 1924 were securing funds to establish scholarships as a memorial to Mrs. Scott. This interest meant much to the school and to the students.

The price of a permanent scholarship for a boarding student was the income on \$2,000.00, or about \$120.00 yearly; for a day pupil the income on \$400.00, or about \$24.00 yearly.

Sums were accepted for less amount to establish part scholarship, or in helping students with part of the regular expenses.

Other than establishment of scholarships, funds were needed to provide for the increasing cost of living and teachers' salaries, and to upgrade the school plant.

I have always thought of Phelps Academy as a center of learning. When I attended the Academy it was quite a task to travel to Pikeville, the county seat. The majority of travel was by horse-back or mule-back. I well remember one occasion when I made the journey with my mother. We caught an N&W Passenger train at Delorme, West Virginia, went to Fort Gay, West Virginia and walked across a bridge that crossed two rivers and connected two states, counties, and municipalities. We spent the night in Louisa, Kentucky and caught a C&O Passenger train the next morning for Pikeville. It seemed that Pikeville was in another world.

The academy at Phelps in its day rendered a great service to that community. A large number of girls and boys built a strong foundation in that school and went on to greater heights. Lack of money forced the school to close and the area suffered a great loss.

I believe that for whatever I am today, I owe most of it to my parents for making it possible for me to go to school, and to the education, I was fortunate to receive at Phelps Academy.

EARLY SCHOOLS OF THE BIG SANDY VALLEY IN EASTERN KENTUCKY

By

Frank J. Forsyth, Sr., E.E.
February 15, 1966

According to Ely's history of the Big Sandy Valley, the first schools in the area were formed about 1830. Some of the teachers were Joseph West, who began teaching about 1832, Lewis Mayo about 1837, M.T. Burriss from the Leslie settlement on John's Creek, W.M. Murphy and Charles Grim, both of Johnson County. "Charles Grim, being a very small man, always had to surrender to the boys on Christmas, according to the custom of those pioneer days." The rule was treat or be ducked, and the treat consisting of not less than a bushel of apples.

Without any reflection whatever on the teachers just named, Ely's history relates: "that the early school teachers in the Sandy Valley, as a class, had but little education A teacher who could read, write and cipher to the single rule of three in Pike's Arithmetic, was thought qualified to teach school."

The following account of a later Pike County School is taken from teaching experiences of Miss Molly Friend (Auxier) as written by her. In 1877, Miss Friend, probably about twenty, had an opportunity to take over a teaching assignment in a county school near Pikeville. She had no teacher's certificate so went directly to the County School Superintendent, Uncle Tom Marrs, who lived in a long log house on Second Street, in Pikeville, directly opposite the present Anderson's Department Store. She was awarded a certificate to teach, after passing required tests. The following is her own account: "I do not think a happier girl than I ever lived. On Monday morning, I went to school and found a crowd of children in the yard, but no one would speak. I opened the door and they came in very slowly and sat down. I hardly knew where to begin.

"There was a small blackboard on the wall and I wrote in very plain letters the first verse of "Beulah Land". I read it over and over to them and then I sang it. Then I prayed with them and talked to them. Then I took a look at their books. I found several kinds of spellers, several kinds of readers, and one boy had a slate. There were no uniform textbook laws in those days."

"The school house was built of round logs with the cracks daubed with clay. There was a chimney built of rough rocks and clay, with a wide fireplace where we burned wood. There was a window in the other end of the room. The floor was of split logs, called (puncheons). The seat of puncheons was all along the walls, the wall serving as a backrest. A place to write was made by driving two sticks into the log wall and a puncheon laid on these.

The girls wore homemade cotton dresses, were barefoot and wore their hair tucked up with combs. The boys wore linsey cotton pants, cotton shirts, and long hair," (end of letter).

An interesting side light of these pioneer five-month school sessions, which opened in mid-summer, was the common practice of declaring a holiday in September so that the students could help gather corn fodder. Corn fodder was the principal animal food, other than the corn grain, and was an essential product of the farm.

The leaf blades below the ears of corn were stripped from the stalk and tied in bundles. Later, after the ears were mature, the entire stalk above the ear was cut and bundled. School children were essential helpers at foddering time.

Referring again to Ely's history, it states that by 1887 good high schools were located at various places in the Sandy Valley area and a good education could be obtained at a reasonable expense". Again quoting, "all over the Valley good common schools may be found supplementing the five-month free schools, or public schools kept in motion by State taxation". Prior to 1861, few, if any, privates schools were to be found in the Sandy Valley," (end of quotes). Apparently, all other schools operated from tuition paid by the students.

PIKEVILLE COLLEGE MARKER DEDICATION

By

Frank J. Forsyth
October 14, 1965

Men have often met, as on this occasion, to honor the heroism of a soldier, the wisdom of a statesman, or to commemorate an occasion, or to recognize an individual. Today we are dedicating a marker in this public place - a marker quite different from these by recognizing the fulfillment of a dream.

About 80 years ago, dedicated men meeting in Presbytery at Ashland, Kentucky, decided that a school should be provided for the inhabitants of Big Sandy Valley and the mountain region. This idea crystalized in the establishment of a Church-related School in Pikeville - a Presbyterian School destined to become Pikeville College. When Dr. Record was in charge of the school - and even then it was called "The College" - I enrolled as a small boy, and the college and I grew up together. The school was staffed by dedicated teachers. We were not taught merely the 3-R's, and their ramifications, but at the same time we were being prepared for living.

The one outstanding feature of Pikeville College - the real foundation stone of its accomplishments - rests on the fact that it imbues in its students a steadfast faith in GOD.

Today, this marker is dedicated to PIKEVILLE COLLEGE - a school that has guided hundreds and hundreds of young people in the principles of right living, with a knowledge of right and wrong - and with a fixed purpose to achieve.

This Marker stands forever for the passerby to view. As he reads, we believe he will stand a little straighter - be a little prouder - and be a little stronger in the determination to be a good citizen of his community and of his Nation.

AN OLD LANDMARK

By

Minnie E. Ratliff

Theodore Freeland Ratliff, affectionately known as "Freejack", was born at Coal Run in 1845, to Tom Ratliff and Deborah Meade Ratliff. When he came to Pikeville as a young man he took a position with R.M. Ferrell, Clerk of the Circuit Court. After serving an apprenticeship under a Dr. Miller in Pharmacy, he founded the first drug store in Pike County.

At this time drugs were compounded mostly by hand and there were only a handful. Most were of the herbs. As they became more plentiful, or at least available by steamboats coming up the Big Sandy, the shelves began to fill out with such drugs of that day as "paregoric" for intestinal cramps and diarrhea; "flaxseed poultices" for blood poisoning, carbuncles and boils; "carbolic acid" used for chickens with the "gapes"; camphor for toothache and fainty women; strychnine for cardiac trouble; "ingluvin" used as a digestant and to relieve the nausea of pregnancy and obtained from the gizzards of fowls; pepsin which was taken in conjunction with the "ingluvin", often by using the pen knife carried by men of that day to measure out their dosage on the point and then followed by a tin cup of water. Then there were patent medicines such as "syrup of figs" for constipation. Asafoetida was worn as a gum around the neck during epidemics of flu, colds, etc. The medicinal value of this drug may be lost but the memory of its odor may never be forgotten by Pike Countians who were victims of this "necklace".

The first drug store was located on Division Street. Other stores here at that time were "Caudills," Parker's Dept. Store, Barb Marrs Novelty Shop, U.K. Williams General Store, Emory Trivette Ice Cream Parlor, etc.

Steamboats servicing these businesses, as well as the citizens of the town, were: The Mountain Girl, The Tom Spurlock, The Frank Preston, The Maxie Yost, The Vincennes, The R.S. Johnson, The Lexington, The Cando, The Cricket, The Virgie Ratliff, The Sea Gull, The Andy Hatcher, The Jerry Osborne, The Mocking Bird, The Mildren Runyon, and the Big Sandy.

Other sundries and items brought by steamboat to be used in the drug store were baseballs, bats, Mary Arden Cosmetics (named for either an actress or opera star of that day). Glycerin and rosewater lotion, horehound and rock candy were served from large apothecary jars.

The social area of the drug store featured a pot-bellied stove set in a box of sand. The sand being useful for the men to spit in. To the side of this was the checker board and chairs. Due to enthusiasm for this game, Freejack often let customers wait on themselves, so the store became one of the pioneers of our "self-service" stores. Out in front of the store stood a statue of an old Indian, an advertisement for "Old Indian Cigars". Each year, however, a real live Indian came to town and set up store on an old crate in the vacant lot across the street on which now stands Howell's Drug Store. This fella sold "Indian River Tonic", which was supposed to cure anything (even corns), for a dollar a bottle. He was giant size according to those who remembered him, and had a monkey which crawled around his neck.

Freejack always opened his store promptly at 4 a.m. and closed at 10 p.m. People came from Johns Creek, Shelby, Elkhorn, Whitesburg - all points in the county, and on horseback in order to get their drugs. Morphine was distributed over the counter to those suffering with rheumatism, and it is suspected there were many pain-free, but addicted citizens.

Sometime after 1905 Freejack turned the business over to his son Robert. It was during this period that an epidemic of typhoid fever broke out. There were only a handful of doctors in Pikeville at that time: Dr. I.O. Gray, Dr. R.O. Campbell, Dr. Marion Pinson, Dr. George Pinson (who never lost a patient but died from the disease himself), and Dr. Draper. There were no hospitals here. The doctors had to ride fifty miles on the darkest nights without benefit of roads, over mountains, in the coldest weather until their feet often froze to the stirrups of their saddles. They visited poor homes where there were no lights except the open fire, no water, little food. If there was a baby to deliver often it was wrapped in rough towels made from feed sacks. The mother and baby were put to bed on straw. The doctors in those days would have a hard time collecting their fees and most times had to settle for a bag of corn, potatoes, or what the family could spare. Fortunately, for the people, these men were strictly humanitarians and served these people in spite of the perils to their own lives and fortunes. Dr. R.O. Campbell was one such man. He had ridden more miles than any doctor in the county. Nothing stopped him when he had a call. He would ride through rain, snow, or high water, and finally lost his life in service on a cold autumn night when his spirited horse became frightened at the narrows of Island Creek and threw him over a high embankment and broke his neck. What a great loss this county suffered from his death.

During the influenza epidemic in 1918 most all the owners of businesses around Pike County were ill, except Freejack and Bob. These men pooled all the drugs they had and gave them to Ratliff's Drug Store to be used for the epidemic. The store had to remain open for 24 hours a day for over six weeks, with the two men taking turns on shifts.

In 1920 Freejack passed away from heart dropsy at the age of 75 years. He had been a lifelong member of the Christian Church, but his funeral was preached by Uncle See Reynolds at the Presbyterian Church which lot adjoined his home at that time. His obituary was written for the Pike County News by Marion Cecil, a friend and lodge brother.

Tommy Maynard came to join Bob in the drug business in the years 1921 through 1929. By the time he arrived, the old drug store had been replaced with a new structure which featured a soda fountain without stools. However, there were three tables with four chairs each for those wishing to sit down. The tables had glass tops that locked and were used to display novelties and cosmetics. Since there was no refrigeration, the metal ice cream containers were insulated with cork or sawdust, packed with rock salt and ice, and packed down with ball bats. This had to be done twice a day. The three ice creams available at this time were lemon, strawberry and vanilla. Chocolate did not make its appearance until the late twenties. Ice cream was pure and wholesome, not adulterated with gelatin, preservatives or artificial flavoring; and, you had to give a cone your utmost attention in order to get it down before it melted. On July 4 everyone who could get here came to the town's celebrations. Men pulled cars with their teeth and hair; the Virginia Reel was danced at the Hatcher Hotel; there were fireworks and parades. A lively day with flags flying

from every nook and cranny. The heavy ice cream containers were put in front of the store and cones sold on the street. Every year, that is, except the 4th of July when it snowed!

Other goodies sold from the fountain were green rivers, cherry phosphates, root beer, and "Whitman's Candy" began to replace "Hyler's" of the century before. The cosmetics being handled at this time were Narcissus, Djer-Kiss and Muguet. What we now call cologne was then known as toilet water. Bob formulated a bleach cream for the ladies who wanted to stay lily-white. At that time women were considered common if they had a tan. You were considered well-to-do if the skin was lily-white. Bob also formulated a hair dye which was supposed to bring back ones natural color. On some this worked; on himself it became disastrous after reacting with his hat band to give him a rather green head of hair.

New drugs filtering in by railroad freight were "antiphlogistine", "black-berry cordial", "Wampole's Cod Liver Oil Tonic", and "Syrup of Pepsin."

The social area of this renovated store featured the hand cranked "Victrola" with records which the public chose and played (doing their own cranking). The clerks and proprietor were not allowed ever to sit down - only the paying public could sit down. The ice cream and tables were tempting for the young set, but the most tempting things were the chairs where they could do a little courting. When the old chief decided they had spent enough time, Tommy gave a first signal by removing the dishes. If this hint didn't work then he got busy with a damp rag cleaning the table, which usually sufficed, and away they went.

Others in the area associated with this old landmark in its sunset years were Ross Rutherford, John Reece, Carnes Maynard, Davis Williamson, "Sunshine Hunt, Rev. Homer Willis and Lillian Compton.

"Dr. Bob" retired in 1944. The store was operated for awhile by Hugh Hall and Dr. Walden. Then it became Radwan's Shoe Store and is presently Weiner's Army-Navy Store.

"SHAWANESE SALLAD" (Contributed by a sallad lover)

John Filson in his "History of Kentucky" (first published in 1784), under the heading of "Soil and Produce", described some of the "wild herb-age not common to other countries". There he lists a "Shawanese Sallad" as one of those uncommon herbs.

From this account it is reasonable to assume that our present day green herb known as "Shawnee" throughout Appalachia is the same herb listed in Filson's "History of Kentucky".

Shawnee "greens" appear in early spring in widely scattered areas of various types of terrain but the plants appear to grow to the best advantage on the damp banks of a drain or stream where good drainage prevails. The uninitiated "greens picker" has difficulty noting any difference between young Shawnee and violet leaves. At first glance, they appear quite similar but close examination brings out obvious differences.

The violet sloped leaves of Shawnee soon are larger and somewhat lance shaped. These leaves become distasteful and rather tough limiting the favorable salad season to only a few weeks.

THE TIBBS FAMILY OF EASTERN KENTUCKY

By

Mrs. Alla M. Huffman

In Wales, the Tibbs family had a large factory where they made tubs, buckets, etc. Evidently, at one time the name has been "Tubbs" because of the products manufactured. A stone wall of the factory still remains. On it is written the names of many of the Tibbs family. The family also has a coat-of-arms, which reflects their vocation.

The family was known for being kind, generous, fun loving and liking to gather on the hillsides to sing and fraternize with their neighbors; which custom they brought to America with them. (Anyone who knew Butler Tibbs could see these qualities.)

Captain Duskin Tibbs was an officer in the Revolutionary War. In the Virginia Census of 1785 he is listed as living in Shenandoah County, with a household of five white souls, and owning one dwelling and one other building.

The index to the Virginia Census of 1810 names the following Tibbs: Jesse of Buchingham County; George and Hester of Culpepper County; Sarah of Greenville County; Francis, Francis, Jr., and John of Monongalia County; James and John of Prince Edward County; Elizabeth of Prince William County, and Faquher and G..., of Rockbridge County.

There is a legend in the family that there was a widow who was the mother of at least nine sons who lived in Smythe County, Virginia, and that she is the ancestress of the Eastern Kentucky Tibbs families. This was thought to be verified during the 1930's, when a member of the family traveling extensively in the middle and extreme west, called all the Tibbs' listed in the phone books in towns through which he passed and received the same answer about their ancestry. They reported it went back to the Widow Tibbs of Smythe County, Virginia.

About 1845, Frances Siples married George Tibbs and they lived in Smythe County on a small plantation near the large one belonging to the parents of the late Thomas Harmon of Pikeville. The Tibbs' only owned a few slaves (in addition to a man and his wife, who were known as Freed Slaves). There were seven children born to this couple.

The sons of Frances and George Tibbs were: George, John and William (Bill). The daughters were: Eliza, Margaret, Rachel and Eva Matilda (called Little Frances).

During the early part of the Civil War, George Tibbs enlisted in the Confederate Army and his family never heard of him again. The mother and the boys (the oldest of which could not have been more than eleven years old), were left to cope with the farm and slaves as best they could. By early spring of 1864, things looked hopeless. They had long since given up the father as dead; or rotting in one of the terrible northern prisons. The slaves had left, one by one, as the work grew harder, and the food more scarce. So, in the early

summer of 1864, the Widow Tibbs decided to sell the farm and migrate to Eastern Kentucky. Her sister, Jane, had married Reuben Clark and he had sent word that he would help her get settled near their farm at the mouth of Miller's Creek, a tributary of John's Creek in Pike County.

Frances Tibbs sold the farm in Virginia and received confederate money for it. Although the farm had been overrun by both Armies, she had managed to hide some livestock. When they started their long journey she had: two old mules, which she hitched to a rickety farm wagon loaded with a few necessary articles of furniture and a small supply of food; a coop of chickens slung under it; two oxen; and two very thin old cows. The boys walked and drove the cattle. The smaller children rode in the wagon with their mother as driver. The older girls alternately walked and rode in the wagon. The weather was beautiful, but the roads were bad. She thought their progress would be slow, but she was confident that the money from the farm and her livestock would set her up well when she reached the home of her sister.

The first weeks of the trip passed as quite a lark to the children. They explored the woods, teased each other, and played pranks on their mother, who went along with their tricks to make them happy. They grew healthy and as brown as Indians. These were happy days. Their progress was slow because the roads were so bad in places that the rickety old wagon was in danger of falling apart. It very nearly did on a steep hill when one wheel came off and rolled over the hill. They got the wheel back and on the wagon with great effort, and pushed on.

Sometime later they reached a small town and found a blacksmith to work on the wagon and shoe the mules. While the wagon was being fixed Mrs. Tibbs decided to buy some extra food as they were always hungry and their supply was a little low. Until this time she had hoarded her money from the sale of the farm, to help her get a good start in their new home, be able to pay cash, and not be beholden to anyone. She now decided they could spare a little for food. So, taking little "Frances" with her, she went to the one store and after buying a few staples, bought a sack of stick candy for the children. When she handed the money to the storekeeper he looked at her strangely, took the money to the door, then gave it back to her saying, "I can't use this money. It's Confederate, and I take only good Yankee dollars." No where she went would they accept her money. She had to give the blacksmith the coop of chickens for his work. This was another blow. Her head still held high, she climbed into her wagon and started to drive out of town. As she passed the store, the man ran out and gave the children the bag of candy, but the mother drove on without looking to either side. Years afterwards, the older children said that a little crowd had gathered to watch them move on and the children waved, but the mother neither spoke nor smiled.

The "novelty" had begun to wear off, their feet now bare, were beginning to get sore, and their mother began to get cross and demanding. A long hard climb up the mountains to Cumberland Gap lay ahead and they were very anxious to reach the Gap as it was felt the worst part of their journey would be over when they arrived there. They rested and nursed two of the children who had become ill, at the foot of the mountain. It was nearly two weeks before they could begin the climb.

George and John, not feeling too well from this spell of sickness, began to bicker over whose turn it was to do the chores (as boys will do), and in so doing brought their mother's wrath down on their backs. After a sound thrashing one evening George took his spite out on one of the cows, who in lumbering around to get away from him, hurt her leg and walked with a very heavy limp. This was a blessing in disguise but, happily they didn't know it then.

Then, late one afternoon "Little Frances" said she remembered that it was almost dark, they reached the Gap. The wagon and poor old mules pulled up and everyone was so happy that they had made the first part of the trip safely. Mrs. Tibbs decided to rest a few days, let the boys hunt for game, and mend their clothing, which was in a very sad state. They made camp, the boys had gotten some game and they enjoyed a good feast. Everyone was in good spirits and talked happily about their new home in the "Sandy."

A few days passed and over the fire one night while they were telling stories and generally having a good time together, they heard the sound of horse back riders coming up the trail. The children gathered around their mother and waited for the riders to reach their camp. A sorry sight they were. They wore parts and pieces of uniform and told them they were "Morgan's Men". They were in ugly tempers and said they were hungry. The woman offered them food, but they laughed in her face. When she reached in the wagon for the gun they took it away from her. They hitched the mules to the wagon, rounded up the stock, and cursing and yelling started off. One man noticing the crippled cow wanted to shoot her but the leader wouldn't let him, saying, "She'd give enough milk to keep that young'un from starving." Through all this the woman made only one appeal to the soldiers, "We are Southerners the same as you, and I ask you not to rob my children." But they only laughed and rode away taking all she had, but the old lame cow. She stood straight and tall and watched them out of sight, then put her hands over her face and cried. She lived to be ninety odd years old, but her children said it was the first and last time they ever saw her cry. In later years she always told people that she did not believe the men were John Hunt Morgan's men, but outlaws passing as soldiers for their own benefit. "Southern men are different from that," she would say.

The next morning they left the Gap and started down the mountain. They could have traveled faster, but the cow slowed their progress. The baby was their only burden and they took turns carrying her. They walked by day and slept by the trail nights. A kindly traveler on horseback would sometimes take the baby on his horse and carry her to where he turned off another way, leaving her with a family until the rest could catch up. She was always treated kindly and cared for.

They were now living off the countryside. Sometimes a friendly house holder would share corn pone and molasses and the mother would help with whatever the family was working at, and the boys would hoe corn or gather wood to help pay.

The cow was almost dry, just a cupful at night and morning for the baby. The mother's face grew longer, the children were afraid she was sick, but she never complained. She set the days journey, and when they came to a house she would stop and offer to work for food. Often the people asked were almost as desperate as she but they usually shared what they had. She never left without doing some work to pay, even in the fields with the older boys and girls.

One day when they had been very hungry and the only food for supper was a pot of wild greens with only a thin meat rind for seasoning, George decided he'd do a little foraging. He slipped away from the fire and when he came back he had a nice top knot hen under his arm. The children were overjoyed - stewed chicken! But their mother had other ideas. Sternly she told him to take it back, adding "we've not come to that yet". George did as he was told and when he came back he was crying and his mother took pity on him. She told him if they didn't find something to eat soon she'd do the "foraging" and "I'll not wait until I get too weak to carry it either."

Another of the humorous, but pitiful stories she remembered was that they had stopped to stay a night with a more prosperous farmer, whose wife was cooking beans over an open fire in the yard. Mrs. Tibbs was helping the woman with the wash and the children were gathered around the fire, sniffing the delicious odor of the cooking, and when the **backs** were turned, Eliza and Margaret would dip beans out of the pot and gobble them greedily. They were so very hungry. The other children watched in envy, wanting to do the same but not daring.

Their progress got slower and slower. The cow was now completely dry. Mrs. Tibbs finally found a family, who would trade some meal, lard and molasses for her. The children cried when they left her the next morning, but they now had enough food for a week and so that helped to lift their spirits.

To all they met they asked the same question, "How far to Pikeville?" They got many answers. Eliza told her mother it was like the children of Israel wandering in the wilderness except, she doubted they'd ever get to the Promised Land. Her mother would smile and tell them how nice it would be when they got to Uncle Reuben and Aunt Jane's home.

So the days went by. They were always hungry, ragged, foot-sore and dirty. George began to talk darkly of "not going hungry, when there's food to be picked up." Later Mother Tibbs told her sister Jane Clark that she got pretty desperate herself, however, as far as little Frances could remember there was no more foraging. When they were most desperate, they would find a family to share their meager food.

When we would ask how long they were on the way, she wasn't sure; however, when they reached Miller's Creek there was frost on the ground. Early summer to early fall. How many roads did they travel? How many mountains did they climb? Through heat, rain, mud and hunger; penniless, but honest and proud, they finally came to the Clark farm and he took them in, clothed and fed them and helped them to get started in their new home.

The widow Tibbs, determined to make a living for her family and not be a burden to the Clarks, set up housekeeping and worked for more well-to-do families in Pikeville and the county; sewing, knitting and weaving and helping with housework (which in those days was quite genteel and proper for widows and young ladies.) She lived to be 94 years old and was quite hale and hearty, but died from burns received when her clothing caught fire from an open grate. She is buried in the Clark cemetery on Miller's Creek.

People often wondered why the Tibbs family came the long way. Mrs. Tibbs chose that route because she believed her brother, Joe Siples, lived along the way. However, he had preceded her to Kentucky.

George Tibbs went to Oklahoma; John married Rhetta Huffman and they moved to Canada; William married America Robinson, to this union was born one son and one daughter; William Oliver Butler Tibbs, a Spanish American War Veteran, and Pauline who married James Coleman of Marrowbone. Rachel married Will Roberts of Toler Creek. Their descendants are unknown to this writer.

In later years, Eva Matilda, or Frances, made her home with the family of Colonel Dils, and her grandchildren would sit enthralled for hours while she told of the many pleasant days she spent with these kind people. She was nearly of the same age as the Colonel's son John, of whom he was very fond, as he always treated her like a sister. John Dils was the father of Mrs. A.H. William, Mrs. Emily Forsyth, Mrs. J.B. Call.

One of her favorite stories was about the time she told him she was going to marry Sherrill Huffman and he told her that he didn't think she would ever have much of this world's goods, but if they loved each other that was all there was to worry about. That money alone would not make her happy. In later years she found that all he told her was true. William Sherrill Huffman was the son of Allen and Hannah Robinson Huffman. They lived all their lives in Pikeville and the surrounding area. During the great Spanish influenza outbreak she worked tirelessly as nurse among the victims.

Their children are Landy, Lucretia, Will, Virgil, Fannie, Jettie, Norman, America and Zelfhia. All are living except Zelfhia who died in 1949. Sherrill died April 8, 1938; Frances Tibbs died in 1953.

Eliza and Margaret married and raised their families on the waters of the Big Sandy. They have many descendants who have fought in all the wars we have been engaged in. Quite a few of them are now in Viet Nam. All are quite well educated, many holding college degrees. This writer is not familiar enough with their names to catalogue them. However, the late Lacy Tibbs Clark was one of Margaret's descendants and Mrs. Ora Grass Johnson's grandmother was the Eliza of our story.

The source of my material is taken from notes that I made from stories told to my children by their grandmother, Frances Tibbs Huffman, who was four years of age when the journey was made in 1864. To understand their hardships we must remember that in the 1860's this country was still very much as the early settlers found it, with the exception of the Indians. Settlements were small, far between as was the farms. Roads were bad (in places only trails) and they had to travel miles out of their way on what roads there were.

In telling of the journey Grandmother Huffman always told the children that she was born the first years of the Civil War and came to the Big Sandy in 1864. When I asked her how she could remember so many details at such an early age she replied that possibly she didn't remember all the things that happened to them, but her mother, sisters and brothers had told and retold them so many times that they seemed to be a part of her. In those days she said stories were told over and over again as a method of entertaining visitors. Neither my children nor I ever tired of these stories of the journey, of her growing up, or of her life as a young lady in Pikeville. Our conversations with the older members of the family verifies her story of the hardships they endured, and the courage of the mother. It all is "The Thread that runs so True."

THE FIRST QUART BOTTLE OF MILK BOTTLED OR SOLD IN PIKEVILLE

By

Mrs. J.H. Atwood Thomas, and the late J. Henry Thomas
February 1968

In 1920 my family moved back to Pikeville. We had been working for the Nigh Lumber Company and six and one-half years. We had to decide on some means of livelihood, so we bought three milk cows.

My brother, Allen, and his family had been living in our house during our absence from Pikeville. He had two or three cows; so, we started selling milk. The people would bring their vessels, usually a one or two quart lard bucket with a lid. We would fill the pail and place it on the porch. The customers would pick up the full bucket and leave an empty one.

As our business grew, we would buy a cow or two. Before long we had built up a small dairy herd. We built a one hundred foot long barn across two lots behind our house on Fifth Street. The next step in progress was to buy a Model T Ford truck, order glass milk bottles and pasteboard bottle caps from Emmonds-Hawkins Hardware Company in Huntington, West Virginia, and begin retail delivery of milk.

The barn had a loft for hay and feed storage. Eventually, we remodeled part of it as a nice bunkroom for men who worked for us at the dairy. Also, we fenced in the river bank portion of our property, plus the adjacent property of Dr. Ratliff, for use as an exercise lot for the cattle.

The business was flourishing prior to the Great Depression. We had begun twice daily wholesale deliveries to local retail grocery stores, restaurants, Pikeville College, and the Methodist hospital. In 1931 with the capital which we had built up, we bought a railroad carload of registered Holstein cows, the best producing dairy breed known at that time. My brother and Mason Sword, who worked for us, went to Wisconsin and brought the cattle back. The total cost - cattle, freight and travel expenses, was about \$5,000.00. Those were the first pure-bred, high quality dairy cattle in this locality. Some of them produced 9-12 gallons of milk each day and had to be milked three times per day.

Well, as we all know, when the depression came, it was just like the bottom falling out of a bucket overnight. Some people could not afford milk, so we had a large surplus and were so worried about the business. Just when things looked bleakest, along came the Quakers (or American Friends) from New York. They wanted to buy our milk for a relief project for the schools. They wanted the milk delivered in pint bottles, which meant that we had to buy many more expensive bottles. We started delivering milk to the following schools: Pikeville, Harold, Betsy Lane, Dorton and Elwood. We shipped by train to Elkhorn City, Lookout and Hellier. There were large coal companies up there then. They paid the retail price of 60¢ per gallon. We sold to the restaurants and stores at the wholesale price of 40¢ per gallon. The American Friends mailed us a check each week.

Well, we came along all right until we did a crazy thing! W.A. Parsons and Curtis Lowe had a few cows. We incorporated, bought all new equipment and put in a pasteurization plant. We located in an old building across the railroad from the City Utility Office. We went along for awhile, but did not like the set up, asked for a dissolution, and they agreed. They took the machinery, bottles and two trucks. We took all of the cattle, a nice pair of horses and one truck. They leased the machinery to a man named Leroy from Williamson, West Virginia. We sold him our milk at the barn. He paid us good for awhile but then began to take the money to Williamson. We could not get him to pay us, so we had no money to buy feed for the 80 head of cattle. We bought quality, second cutting alfalfa hay to feed the cows during the winter. We raised our own feed only for heifers, since most of the farm was in grass for grazing.

The situation came to a climax one day when we had a railroad carload of hay on a local siding and no money to pay for it. I called my attorney friend, Mr. P.B. Stratton; he called Leroy, who came for a meeting in Mr. Stratton's office. Leroy asked to be excused to the rest room, skipped out of town, and I have not seen him or the \$1,500.00 which he owed us to this day.

Naturally, we sold no more milk to him. I sent a man to Huntington to buy bottles while Henry and my son Gene canvassed town for prospective customers. At this time the only delivery equipment which we had was ten gallon cans and one truck. Ballard Weddington, the owner of the dairy farm property on Buckley's Creek three and one-half miles north of Pikeville, loaned us \$1,200.00 to buy processing and delivery equipment to get started once again.

The business developed nicely. The only other local milk available was from Bowles Dairy, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Mack Bowles, and that brought into town by farmers in one-half gallon or gallon jugs. The competition did not affect us as there was a good market for all the milk available. At this time, about 1935, the City and County Health Departments ordered that only graded milk be sold. We modernized the barn at the dairy and built a milk house to conform with standards for Grade "A" raw milk.

Mr. Weddington built a nice five room house for us on the farm. We moved there in 1935 and lived there for nine years. There were 1200 acres on the farm; we had about 300 acres for pasture grass. We had about an eight acre truck patch which largely supplied our kitchen, although we sold some vegetables such as potatoes and turnips. Our herd included an average of 22 springing heifers from our registered stock and 15 dry springing cows. The herd was about three-fourths Holstein with the remainder Jersey and Guernsey, to meet specific retail requests for milk from the latter. We had the storybook, ferocious 2300 pound Holstein bull, plus a Jersey bull, for breeding.

During World War II we could not keep help of any kind. Henry was sick and physically able only to drive the delivery truck. We struggled along for a couple of the war years with only one man and his son to help us. There were five tenant houses on the farm; before the war the families who lived in them could supply us with all the labor needed. But, many of them were drafted for military service or left to work in defense plants elsewhere.

In addition to the dairy cattle we had 200 chickens and 200 head of hogs, including 14 brood sows. We had electric milkers which helped a lot, but I still worked from 3 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, to see that everything was done. I did everything except drive the truck, and I would have done that had I known how to drive. We had to reduce the deliveries to once daily on government orders, so we made wholesale deliveries each day and retail deliveries every other day to each half of the town.

In 1944 with Gene in the United States Army, serving in Italy, and with Henry's health growing progressively worse, we decided to sell to F.A. Hopkins and move back home to town. Mr. Hopkins could not get help either, so he had a sale of the stock at the barn. That was what became of Thomas Dairy. Henry passed away in 1945. We both loved cows and the dairy, even if it was a 24 hour day job, for 24 years!



LITTLE FLOYD COUNTY

By

Henry P. Scalf

The first few years following the victory of General Anthony Wayne over the Indians at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 saw a surge of settlers into the mid-Big Sandy valley. These settlers, most of them from the New River section of Virginia, founded homes generally on the large river bottoms from Northern Pike County to near Preston's Station, now Prestonsburg. There was no Pikeville then, or Piketon, as it was first named.

Two groups of these settlers were headed by James Shannon Layne of Amherst County, Virginia, and Solomon Stratton, of Montgomery County, Virginia. The Laynes and Strattons were allied by marriage. The Laynes ran their lines around a vast acreage of land extending south from the present Betsy Layne-Justell bridge and the Strattons patented another huge tract from Betsy Layne to a mile below the present level. James S. Layne built his home, one of the finest in the mid-West, about 300 feet south of the present Betsy Layne bridge. Solomon Stratton erected a cabin home on a knoll almost opposite the present postoffice of Stanville. One son of Solomon, Col. Harry, built a huge hewn log house near the mouth of Tom's Creek. He was fearful of Indian arrows and so he chinked between the logs with stones. Richard, affectionately called "Uncle Dickie," built a cabin upon a promontory at the mouth of Mare Creek. He, too, took precaution against Indian harrassment. He cleared the hill above his home the distance a rifle ball would carry and dug up the tree stumps behind which an Indian might hide.

Land titles were already clouded by overlapping patents when the Laynes and Strattons came to the valley in 1796 but both Layne and Stratton (the latter a veteran of Gen. George Rogers Clark's Illinois Expedition in 1778), soon made themselves aware of the multiple patents and clung tenaciously to their vast domains despite many caveats. Around the present city of Pikeville land claims for years afterward were a such a matter for controversy that the Kentucky General Assembly had to clear the titles by legislative act so the security of the claims of the first settlers in the new town of Piketon could be effectuated. This was in 1823.

All of the Big Sandy valley was claimed by Mason County, Kentucky when the Strattons and Laynes settled but it was not clear whether the contesting claims of Bourbon and Fayette were invalid or not. When the Weddingtons settled just below the north Pikeville bridge they found themselves living on land claimed by many others. The Bevinses tried to settle nearby on the river in 1806 but becoming disgusted with the overlapping claimes removed to Johns Creek. In general, the claim of Mason County was recognized.

Floyd County was created in 1799 and organized as a governmental unit in 1800. All of the present area of Pike County was a part of Floyd until the former county was created in 1821. In the meantime the sons of the first settlers were spreading over the land, founding homes and creating estates. One son of Richard (Uncle Dickie) Stratton, married Mahala Lewis in 1823,

the year the commissioners finally agreed on Pikeville as the county seat. The line between Floyd and Pike was not run for two decades after 1823 so Tandy R. Stratton did not know he was settling in Pike County when he and Mahala founded a home about mid-way the valley of Mare Creek. Here he lived until early 1840, thinking he was in Floyd County.

The Pike County line being run, Tandy R. was shocked to find that his near 1,000 acre farm was in Pike. His lower line was half-mile from the Pike-Floyd line. Tandy R. visited the fledgling town of Piketon a few times to pay taxes and attend to other legal business but he didn't like the place. It had but a few mud daubed houses. Compared with Prestonsburg with which Tandy R. was familiar. For decades the Floyd County seat was up-to-date and outstripping the new town. Tradition in the Stratton family has it that Tandy R. remarked often that he "didn't like to do business in Piketon."

Tradition, too, avers that one reason Tandy R. preferred to be in Floyd County was his political influence. Candidates for office and influential leaders rode up to the Stratton homestead, hitched their horses to the paling fence and came in to curry the old patriarch's favor. A relative, James Stratton, was elected to the Kentucky legislature. His uncle, Col. Harry, served in nearly every minor county office. Other Strattons who were or had been Floyd County officials were Solomon, William, Horam, Solomon C., William L., Harry, and John. The Strattons of today have a tradition that everytime Tandy R. thought of having been cut off to Pike County he let out a vehement, "Darn Pike County."

Soon after Tandy R. learned he was living in Pike County he began to marshall assistance to have his farm made a part of Floyd. He discussed the matter with Spencer Adkins, a friend of Col. Harry's and others who knew something of legislative matters. Tandy R.'s uncle, Harry (whose name was Henry but preferred his nickname) had been a State Senator. James Stratton, now elderly, was a former member of the Kentucky House of Representatives. Finally, the coterie of interested persons, presented the matter before State Senator Hency C. Harris, Prestonsburg. Harris, an eminent attorney, promised to see what he could do. It is said by tradition that Tandy R. told Senator Harris that his grandfather, Solomon, had laid Prestonsburg off in 1797 and he wanted to "do business in my grandfather's town."

The Kentucky legislature of 1844-45 had many important matters to legislate, but early in the latter year a four-section bill was introduced that drew little attention. Section 1 provided for the establishment of an additional election precinct in Harrison County; Section 2 provided for another precinct in Crittenden County; Section 3 implemented the desire of Tandy R. Stratton to have his farm made a part of Floyd County; and Section 4 created an additional Justice in Greenup County.

The bill, entitled "An Act establishing additional election precincts in Harrison and Crittenden counties, and for other purposes," made no mention in the title about the boundary change. Nevertheless, the miscellaneous bill was passed, and approved by the Governor, on February 10, 1845.

Section 3 reads: "Be it further enacted, that the county line between Floyd and Pike counties be so changed on Ware Creek, as to include the farm of Tandy R. Stratton, on said creek, in Floyd County."

It was the end of a dream for Tandy R. and the beginning of a nightmare for his descendants. It was of little consequence to Stratton that the legislature called Mare Creek "Ware Creek", or that his farm was not contiguous to Floyd County. He could now "do business in the town his grandfather founded."

For decades Stratton descendants built homes and lived on the farm their ancestor had cut off to Floyd County. Oldsters facetiously named the place Little Floyd County. The half-mile between Little Floyd and Big Floyd they named The Strip. Judge C.B. Wheeler, of the Floyd Circuit Court, exasperated at difficulty in determining jurisdiction, named it No Man's Land.

Three quarters of a century followed the boundary change people continued to smile in amusement at Little Floyd and its condition but tolerant grins turned to high laughter about 1920 when the locally famous Gosling Case erupted.

Hayes Howell lived just off Little Floyd on what is now the Gunnells Branch. His small acreage was never a part of the Tandy R. Stratton estate and thus he lived just across the line in Pike County. Mrs. Martha Stratton asked the neighborly Howell to set a hen for her on goose eggs. The eggs hatched, producing a nest full of waddling goslings. Half of them were to belong to Howell for he had furnished the hen. Mrs. Stratton disputed the ownership and one day when Howell was away she went to the hen house and took the goslings away. Howell returned, met Mrs. Stratton in the road. A bit of scrimmage followed and several goslings were trodden underfoot. Howell took the remaining goslings back to his poultry house. Mrs. Stratton swore out a warrant for him in Little Floyd County. Howell swore it occurred in Pike. The Magistrate, not being able to determine jurisdiction, transferred the case to the County Judge. When the case came up before him, arguments ensued to the high amusement of bystanders and the court. The County Judge, feeling he had more important things to do than try a gosling case, filed it away.

The Gosling Case was the beginning of years of arguments. Lending validity to the argument that the land had never been properly severed from Floyd were the topographical map of the United States Geological Survey which showed the land in Pike. Proponents of the other side argued that the title of the act caused the cartographers to overlook the change when Pike County was mapped. Today, the latter argument is upheld by the Atlantic Regional office of the U.S. Survey at Arlington, Virginia.

For 15 years following the Gosling Case Little Floyd made no news. At the end of that period there was a murder case almost on the line of Little Floyd and The Strip. Both Pike and Floyd counties assumed jurisdiction. The accused was arrested and put in jail at Prestonsburg. He had no sooner filed bond than the Pike officers arrested him and put him in jail at Pikeville. Again, he filed bond.

Since the case came up before Circuit Judge John W. Caudill in Floyd County, the jurist sought to determine jurisdiction. Maps were brought out, the act making the boundary change was found in Chapter 254, page 195 of the Acts of the 1844-45 legislature. Judge Caudill held that the farm of Tandy R. Stratton had been properly severed from Pike and Little Floyd was a legal entity. The accused murderer was tried and received five years in the penitentiary which he served.

Despite Judge Caudill's ruling, controversy still rages. Pike County assesses the properties of the 13 residents; so does Floyd. The descendants of Tandy R. Stratton stoutly maintain they live in Floyd and pay their taxes in Prestonsburg. Pike County puts most of the small tracts up for a tax sale every year. Little Floyd Countians pay little attention.

The census enumerators for years have frowned with frustration when they come to Little Floyd. Many of the enumerators solved the question of what county the residents reside in by listing them on their rolls as in Pike and or Floyd County, depending upon the enumerator. Today it is often remarked that the residents of Little Floyd are the only people in the United States counted twice in the decennial enumerations.

Regional newspapers and several national magazines have had articles on Little Floyd. The Baltimore Sun enunciated a tongue-in-cheek story on it in World War II, the Kentucky Bar Journal did likewise in its January 1962 issue. The Louisville Courier Journal editorialized several years ago with the headline, "Mare Creek Ends up in a Mare's Nest." The Southern Telephone News, Atlanta, Georgia in its October 1962 issue reached ridiculous heights when the following was written:

"Taxes can't be assessed in Pike because the land is in Floyd; they can't be collected in Floyd because the sheriff has no jurisdiction in Pike. No citizen in Little Floyd can even qualify for county office and all voting has to be done by absentee ballot because the voter is absent from both counties on election day. Some have been charged with voting in two counties. Some people, it is said, pay taxes in Floyd, vote in Pike, and vice versa."

Some of which is true, most is journalistic drivel. In 1966, Walter C. Herdman, assistant attorney-general of Kentucky, in an opinion given to the Floyd County Registration and Purgation Board relative to the qualifications of the residents to vote in Floyd County, said: "Our opinion on the subject is to the effect that we believe the voters in question are, in fact, legal voters of Floyd County by virtue of the 1845 Act irrespective of the fact that the so called "Little Floyd" is surrounded by Pike County."

Despite the Assistant Attorney-General's opinion, confusion reigns supreme in Little Floyd. One man, residing in the midst of the tract, pays taxes in Pike but votes in Floyd. Some of the other voters up the small branches also pay taxes in Pike but vote in Floyd. Automobiles are registered in the county of preference. When it comes to the maintenance of the road both counties disclaim responsibility, and if a bridge needs to be built the residents do it themselves. Everyone agrees that the Courier-Journal was correct when it said "Mare Creek Ends up in a Mare's Nest."



THE PIKEVILLE METHODIST HOSPITAL

By

J.I. Meyer

As early as 1920, Pike County and the upper Big Sandy Valley of Eastern Kentucky were being developed as the nation's prime coal field. Coal mining in those early days of industry was extremely hazardous and accidents were frequent. Then there were in addition, the usual sickness of every community.

The coal companies induced young doctors to come to the coal camps by placing them upon the pay roll at good salaries; but there was no hospital closer than Ashland-a hundred miles away.

In 1919 a young Methodist Minister, Thomas B. Ashley, was appointed to Pikeville. His heart was touched by the lack of facilities to care for the sick and injured. He began to talk "Hospital to doctors and business men.

In 1920, five leading citizens of Pikeville, spurred to action by Rev. Ashley's incessant prodding, formed a Stock Company to "build and furnish and equip a hospital in the mountains at Pikeville". They were Dr. R.S. Johnson, John W. Call, Harry Hoskins, Dr. A.C. Bond and George Hames.

A site was purchased from George Hames on Peach Orchard Hill, overlooking the city of Pikeville and ground breaking ceremonies were held Sunday, April 26, 1920, with Dr. A.Z. Thompson and Rev. Ashley turning the first shovel of dirt. Construction of the building immediately followed, which was to be a fifty bed hospital.

However, after eighteen months, the Company experienced financial difficulties and construction stopped. Local citizens did not respond to stock sales in the project and the promoters were looking for a way out of the difficult financial situation. Dr. Ashley was Chairman of the Board of Hospitals in the Kentucky Conference of the Methodist Church. At the suggestion of Dr. Johnson, President of the Hospital Corporation, he contacted Bishop Anderson in Cincinnati, who had charge of Kentucky Methodism and asked that the Kentucky Conference take over the Pikeville Hospital.

The Bishop was agreeable to the venture and called the Kentucky Conference Board of Hospitals to meet in his Cincinnati office, January 8, 1921. After careful study of the project, the Board voted to take over the Hospital, which consisted of an unfinished building and an indebtedness of fifty one thousand dollars.

The Kentucky Conference session of September 1921 endorsed the recommendation of the Board of Hospitals and appointed Board members to, "do all that is necessary to start the operation of a Hospital in Pikeville, Kentucky".

Dr. Ashley, by virtue of his office in the Conference, called the first Board Meeting, February 22, 1922, to meet in the Pike Hotel. Officers were elected and plans were made for completing the building. The following officers were elected: President, H.M. Hoskins; Vice-President, L.C. Campbell; Secretary, Dr. T.B. Ashley, Treasurer, W.W. Gray of the First National Bank.

These men each signed personal notes at the local bank to the amount of sixty one thousand dollars to complete the building.

It soon became evident that more money would be required to complete the hospital building. To meet this problem, the board voted to complete the first two floors and open them by January 1, 1925.

A small nursing staff was recruited with Miss Elsie Sanderson as Superintendent of nurses. Rev. John F. Ruggles, a minister of Kentucky Conference was elected administrator.

A medical staff had been organized consisting of: Dr. W.C. Gardner, Chief-of-staff; Dr. Z.A. Thompson; Dr. R.S. Johnson; Dr. R.W. Raynor; Dr. J.C. Preston; Dr. A.C. Osborn; Dr. M.D. Flanary; Dr. S.B. Casebolt; Dr. J.W. Vickers; Dr. E.P. Walters; Dr. Marion Pinson.

An emergency apendectomy made it necessary to open the hospital for service Christmas Day 1924 with the admittance of A.B. Cochran of Pikeville as first patient.

In June 1925, upon the resignation of Rev. Ruggles, Dr. S.K. Hunt became hospital administrator. The building was not yet completed and the indebtedness was more than a hundred thousand dollars. Dr. Hunt was a man of many talents and great ability. Under his leadership, the building was completed in 1927, giving the community a fifty bed hospital.

In 1927, a school for the training of Registered Nurses (RNs) was opened. Instructors were Mrs. Mary York, Mrs. Sally Baker, Miss Geneva Hartman, and Dr. Paul Gronnerud. Five classes numbering seventeen nurses were graduated. Others joined the classes and took work but did not graduate. The School was discontinued in 1932 for financial reasons.

In June 1936 Dr. Hunt resigned and the board selected Dr. Thomas B. Ashley, "father of the Pikeville Methodist Hospital" as his successor. Like Dr. Hunt, Dr. Ashley was an able administrator, greatly beloved by the hospital personnel and by the community.

Meanwhile the service area of the Pikeville Methodist Hospital was enlarging, reaching over into Virginia and West Virginia. The C&O Rail Road and Coal Companies made it their official hospital. That meant that a building program had to be launched to take care of the inflow of patients.

A building program was gotten under way by Dr. Ashley and a new wing was opened on National Hospital Day, May 12, 1940. This brought the hospital to ninety bed capacity.

Then came World War II. Coal was a necessity; the mines were worked around the clock; wages were good; the hospital was usually filled to capacity. For the time being financial worries were over.

However, there were other worries. The younger doctors went to the War. Nurses did the same. But Dr. Ashley and the superintendent of nurses, Miss Louise Acker, early realized that since nurses were the life blood of hospital service, a staff of nursing personnel would have to be maintained. Girls were

recruited for a nurses' aides class. Local girls were recruited. Without them the hospital could not have continued in operation during the war days.

By 1945 plans and specifications for the remodeling of the present building and the addition of a second wing that would bring the hospital to a one hundred fifty bed capacity, were accepted by the board. Construction began August 10, 1946, but was not completed until the fall of 1952 at a cost of more than a half million dollars. It included remodeling the old building, construction of the new wing and the installation of new furnishings.

At the board meeting of January 3, 1952, Dr. Ashley announced that he wished to retire. S.A. Lott, a layman, professionally trained for the office of hospital administration, was chosen to succeed Dr. Ashley. He remained in office five years to be followed by Dr. Armour Evans, another minister. The work of these two men was largely house keeping and public relations. The glamorous, dramatic pioneering days were over. But, raising funds, refinancing loans, reorganizing the personnel and meeting the new standards for accreditation, presented many problems to the administration. Armour Evans was followed by Eugene Lopez in 1960 as administrator. Lopez was a layman professionally trained for hospital administration.

In the early fifties, the U.M.W.A. began the location and construction of a chain of ten hospitals throughout the Appalachian region of Eastern Kentucky and reaching into West Virginia. One of these was located in Pikeville to be known as the "Miners Memorial Hospital". When opened for service in 1955, all U.M.W.A. workers and families went to the Miners Memorial. They had been a substantial financial block to the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Since the Memorial Hospital did not take charity patients, these were taken to the Methodist Hospital. Soon the charity load became so great that the financial situation became serious.

Under Mr. Lopez's guidance, a "Save our Hospital" crusade was launched across the community with a goal of fifty thousand dollars in cash within thirty days. W. Bruce Walters of the local Ford Plantation, Sales and Service, carried the crusade to a successful goal and the hospital continued in operation. But, the hospital situation in Pikeville was far from healthy.

The Methodist Hospital, located on a side of Peach Orchard Hill was so hemmed in by other properties that it could not expand. Its parking facilities were bad and could not be improved. Its building was obsolete. The Miners Memorial building of fifty bed capacity was too small for effective and economical hospitalization.

The boards of each institution had applied to the Hill-Burton, a federal-state agency created to assist in financing of hospitals, only to be told that a single hospital facility could most economically provide hospitalization for the Pikeville area; that no financial aid would be forthcoming until that problem had been resolved.

Soon it became evident that the U.M.W.A. was having financial difficulties. In a few months these became a serious problem. Finally, the U.M.W.A. announced that as of July 1, 1964, it was going out of the hospital business and that the entire chain of hospitals was for sale.

To keep the hospitals in operation throughout the Appalachian region, the Presbyterian Church spear headed a movement to form a private corporation, called the Appalachian Regional Hospital, Incorporated (A.R.H.I.).

Mr. Lopez, administrator of the Pikeville Methodist Hospital immediately contacted the A.R.H.I. for the purpose of purchasing the Pikeville facility. After many negotiating conferences, the A.R.H.I. sold the Pikeville property to the Methodist Hospital. The purchase price was the assumption by the Methodist Board of a \$492,000.00 mortgage which the government held on the property, plus an inventory which amounted to \$65,000.00.

The Hill-Burton granted the Pikeville Methodist Board the right to construct a new building. After an exhaustive study of suitable building sites, the board, with the approval of all government agencies involved, decided to build the new facility on the property purchased from the A.R.H.I. and join it with the existing two story building.

By this time the administrator had become quite ill. He spent many months in various hospitals being treated for a terminal malignancy, but not a board member wanted to replace him. However, urged to action by Hill-Burton, Mr. Lee D. Keene was elected Administrator and entered upon his duties at Pikeville, March 1, 1968. Mr. Keene also a layman, professionally trained and experienced in hospital administration immediately entered into a long series of negotiations with government and state agencies and philanthropic organizations, all related to the financing of the project.

On June 20, 1969, a contract was signed for the complete remodelling of the building purchased from A.R.H.I. and the construction of an eight story hospital building. The contract price was \$7,300,000.00 including furnishings, architect, legal fees, and interest.

On July 11 and 12, the two local radio stations, (WPKE and WLSI) and the South Central Bell Telephone Company, combined their personnel and equipment for a twenty four hour radiothon, which netted the hospital \$120,000.00 in good pledges and cash. This provided a good "kick off" for a local fund drive of \$400,000.00. The remaining funds were received from grants and loans from government and state agencies. There remained an indebtedness of \$3,000,000.00 extending over forty years with a debt service of \$189,000.00 annually.

The building was completed and dedicated December 5, 1971 with appropriate ceremonies after which more than six thousand people signed the registers and toured the building.

The first patient, Paul Belcher, from Belcher, Kentucky was admitted Christmas day 1971 in commemoration of the admittance of the first patient to the original hospital on the hill, Christmas Day, 1924.

This modern hospital facility will provide new resources for use in areas of diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation. It is the first unit in a complex which will include a nurses' home and other structures as needed, which will keep Pikeville a health center. It is dedicated to the bringing of new life, to the relief of physical suffering, to the healing of distressed minds, to the healing of sin sick souls. It is indeed a dream come true, the reopening in this community, of "Doors of hope that never close".

MEMORIES OF MRS. W.J. WALTERS

by

Mrs. W.J. Walters

My father was born and raised in Pike County, my mother was born and raised in Johnson County. My father was a Union soldier. They met during the war and were married in 1868 and lived in Johnson County until I was sixteen years old. Then we moved to Chloe Creek in Pike County. We came up Big Sandy on a steamboat with a "flat boat" or "push boat" attached. On it were our household goods.

We arrived at Pikeville Landing about noon Jan. 15, 1888. We ate dinner at my cousin Jim William's home just opposite Pikeville. Everybody was talking about the Hatfield-McCoy family war. The officers had brought the prisoners to Pikeville the night before. They said the town was so lighted up with street lamps that they could see to pick up a pin on their porch. I think the Ferd Hatcher house was the lower end of town.

There was only Main Street and Second Street. I do not remember the court house, but in our school work we learned that the first court, years before was held at "The Forks" and James Honaker was one of the officials. I do not remember the exact date the present court house was built, but it was about 1889-1890. One of the builders said he could make anything that was made of wood except a hornet's nest but he couldn't make that.

In 1888 there were two churches in Pikeville. The M.E. Church a short distance below the middle bridge and the Southern Methodist Church also on Main Street. There were two hotels, The Connolly house run by W.M. Connolly and the Williamson House run by Hibbard Williamson.

I only remember two stores, J.D. Caudill's and the Bowles Store. There were two blacksmith shops. Virgil Gray's grandfather Dr. I.E. Gray was the only doctor in Pikeville. Dr. Furguson was at Boldman and Dr. Jackson was on Johns Creek.

There were no saloons and no bootleggers. There were only about 500 people in Pikeville.

The first Christian Church was built about 1890 or '91. It has been greatly improved since then. The Missionary Baptist Church was built about 1905. The Regular Baptist was built at the Mouth of Furguson's Creek just a few years ago. Then the Freewill Baptist, the Holiness Church and others, different denominations but only one God.

We had no bridges. We crossed the river in Ferry-boats and Joe boats. The first or Middle Bridge was built about 1908. The other bridges were built with the Mayo Trail.

Judge A.J. Auxier lived at the foot of Kentucky Avenue. Perry Cline lived about a mile below town. The old Bowles house, of Garfield fame, was the upper end of main Pikeville. ~There were three houses between that

and the Pikeville Collegiate Institute. After P.C.I. was built and school started, a boarding house was built and College Street was soon on its way.

The streets were mud. There were very few sidewalks. A few of brick and some of plank, more of plank. There was a large house and a barn just below the lower bridge, about where N.A. Chrisman lives. That was the upper end of the Cecil Farm which extended to the Mouth of Ratliff's Creek. That farm was originally a cane brake. Tradition says it was once given as "Boot" in a trade, concerning a dog, a gun, and a big knife. My great-grandmother sold it to her brother-in-law for \$150. Now Bowles addition has taken the place of the cows that were pastured there.

In the summer of 1888 a Union Sunday School was organized at the M.E. Church on Main Street. In a few months after the college was started we heard three Sunday School bells. The town began growing and has never stopped and since 1940 it has seemed to grow by leaps and bounds.

The Trachoma hospital was located in the Jim Hatcher building. Doctor R.W. Raynor had charge of that, and it was a blessing to Pike County.

The first passenger train came to Pikeville June 3, 1905. Later we had two trains a day to Elkhorn for several years, then one of these was discontinued in favor of cars, buses, and trucks.

My father hauled coal from Chloe to Pikeville when he was a boy, sometimes with an oxtteam. Later his sons and neighbor's mines supplied Pikeville with coal until they got electricity. In those days coal was mined by hand; mainly strength and awkwardness. Steamboats came up Big Sandy six or eight months a year. The rest of the year the merchants had to haul their supplies from Richardson or White House in Wagons.

The first Pike County Library was in the Court House. There were very few books, 100 volumes, more or less, I know for I had charge of it for a short while.

The First National Bank was established in 1889. It is still a good, reliable bank.

When the Consolidated Coal Company came to Pike County, business began improving very much. John C.C. Mayo was a brilliant young man, born and raised in Johnson County. He travelled over these mountains and seeing a future in coal he began taking options on mineral rights in Pike and Letcher counties. Then he went East and contracted business men with money. They became interested and came to investigate. They found plenty of black diamonds. They also found strong independent mountain men and boys. When the New York men came to Pikeville they had to go the rest of the way in wagons. They hired men and boys to take them.

These city men had cooks and tents and everything they wanted. When they ate their first meal they began giving the wagon drivers "handouts". They rebelled and made their decision. When the company's spokesman asked what they wanted, they said, "a table, chairs and good food." Otherwise

everyone of the drivers would bring his wagon out and leave them stranded in the mountains. Mr. Mayo knew his native neighbor men and they got what they asked for.

But many of the owners of land sold their mineral rights for fifty cents an acre not realizing the value of coal.

That was the beginning of Jenkins, Burdine, Neon, McRoberts, and other little towns.

With J.C.C. Mayo's crowd was J.J. Johnson of Louisa, one of the best lawyers in Sandy Valley. Also, G.B. Vaughan, one of Johnson County's best teachers. They spoke for the drivers. They knew their neighbors meant what they said.

I knew Mr. Mayo when I was a child. I went to school to his father, in Paintsville, when I was nine years old. It was in the spring of the year, a subscription school. One of the boys went out in the school yard one day, and got a green apple. As he came back, passing by my desk, he dropped the core down my dress neck. Of course, I began twisting and squirming and the other children were laughing. Mr. Mayo had the switch ready to lay across my shoulders when some of the children told him what caused the commotion. That little incident is the only thing I remember about the school.

But I can remember when J.C.C. Mayo didn't have a dollar with which to buy stamps. His washwoman said, "I will lend you a dollar." In later years he bought her a home for life. His dreams and visions and determination certainly brought prosperity to Pike and Letcher counties and all Big Sandy.

Before my father began going to school in Pikeville he walked from Chloe Creek to the Cecil farm to school. I had his old blue back spelling book, grammar, arithmetic and other books, but they were burned when our home was burned in 1929. He went to his last school in the old school building on Main Street in Pikeville. That building was used for Pikeville City schools until 1889. That year, 1888, was it's last as a school building. The last school was taught by a young Presbyterian man.

I taught the Chloe Creek school, five months for \$100. The City school teacher came over and helped me organize a Sunday School and I paid a whole weeks salary for "Bible Scenes and Studies" to help with my Sunday School. I was only seventeen years old. My school house was a short half mile from Pikeville and was a small building made of logs. The seats in this school were mostly split saplings with four legs. A small dog could crawl through some of the holes and the children were all the time dropping pencils through the cracks in the floor. In the winter we crowded around a big stone in the middle of the room. The children had few books. Some of the parents thought all they needed was a spelling book. In 1894 I taught five months on Johns Creek in a log school-house with a big wood fire place in one end of the room. But two of my pupils were 17 year old boys and they kept the fire going. I could not. The pupils in this school had more books and were farther advanced in their lessons. We had a good school with only about 50 pupils from 4 years to seventeen.

I taught my last school sixty years ago in a one room building where

the Phelps Academy now stands. I had more than sixty pupils enrolled, but I do not think I ever had more than fifty in attendance at the same time. However that was enough. Now coming back to Pikeville.

In 1889 the beginning of Pikeville College was started and is still growing. Some good Christian men came to Pikeville and organized a church and of course a school followed. A four room brick building was built in 1889. The first principal of the school was Rev. David Blyth. He worked with the builders, one of whom was Bob Williamson. He is now 90 years old and occasionally visits Pikeville.

The first building was four large rooms with a hall on one side so four more rooms could be added. Two of these halls we used for cloak rooms and a place for country children to eat dinner. The City school was taught in this building in 1889. A small beginning, but P.C.I. has grown into Pikeville College and is still growing. There were no sidewalks above the old Bowles Building and the streets were muddy. The school building steps had iron scrapers fastened on them and we always kept a supply of splinters of wood to clean the mud off our shoes, if we were not lucky enough to have overshoes. The building was heated by big coalfires in grates.

The first year of school, Mr. Blythe boarded at the Connolly House. The second year he had married Miss Lucy Dodds, one of his teachers, and they went to housekeeping in a little cottage on Main street. He had two teachers, besides a kindergarten teacher for last half of school. He taught school in the morning and visited in the afternoon. On Sunday he had Sunday school, preached in the morning, in the evening he had Christian Endeavor meeting and preached again. He gave most of his salary to the school.

The third year of the school Mr. and Mrs. Blythe moved into one room of the school building-the front room next to Bill Huffman's. They used curtains for partitions for the rooms. It was while living here that he was stricken with typhoid fever from which he never fully recovered. He had to give up his beloved school at Christmas. We had no school till September when T.J. Kendrick and Rev. Forsythe became co-principals. The next year Miss Katherine Vreeland became principal for two years. She taught English, German, and Greek. I liked German, but I never liked Chaucer. She also taught geology and zoology. We had four years of Latin. Mr. Kendrick taught Latin. Our chemistry teacher was Dr. Wrightsman who lived on College street and we had our chemistry class at his home at night. We all loved botany.

The first class of P.C.I. had Commencement exercises at the Court House. You have read of that in an old Record. We didn't have to have so many hours in High School. We had to make good grades. We could take our books home and study and when we had our examinations we had to make our grades.

In 1894 and 1895 T.J. Kendrick again became Principal. The teachers were Mrs. Vreeland, Lizzie Syck (Mrs. W.J. Walters) and Mr. McDonald. The last two coming in at second semester. I taught history, grammar and arithmetic. Mr. McDonald was a son of Rev. McDonald, a fine man and minister. I do not remember what the young McDonald taught. He could speak half a dozen languages and read more, but he couldn't build a fire in the grate. We all boarded at Hendrick Hall. One night at supper he looked across the table at me and said "I will give you a dime if you will build my fire."

The rooms were all heated by coal grates. The other youngsters said "take him up". A dime was as hard to get then as a dollar is now. By the time he had finished his supper I had a good fire. The other youngsters put in nickels and dimes and one of the boys went down town. and got a candy treat.

The next year Rev. Hammet took charge of the school for two years. I was teaching out in the county and do not remember much about the school. Rev. Hammet had three beautiful daughters.

In 1898 Rev. Corneilson became principal for year and the school almost died. In 1899 Dr. J.F. Record came to Pikeville from Pennsylvania and became principal of P.C.I. and he was certainly a live wire. He was only here a very little while until he was on a horse riding over Pike County waking people up. He put life into P.C.I. and like Mr. Blythe he gave the best of his life for the mountain boys and girls and will never be forgotten. Now Dr. Page has taken over and P.C.I. had grown into a 4 year College spreading over Sandy Valley and spending hundreds where we used to spend dollars. May the Lord bless the good work and keep it growing for the Lord.

SINKING OF THE FAVORITE By Mrs. W.J. Walters (Lizzie Syck)

It has been fifty-seven years since "The Favorite" sank in the muddy raging waters of the Big Sandy River on March 1, 1897.

I lived near Pikeville at the time, but had been visiting my Aunt, Mrs. J.F. Hatten, of Buchanan at the Mouth of Bear Creek. On February 28th, I had a letter from home saying my mother was ill and they wanted me to come home at once.

Cousin Maggie Hatten called Cattlettsburg and made arrangements for the steamboat "Joe Newman" to stop at the Bear Creek store landing. When the boat whistled at the landing we thought it was the "Joe Newman", but when we got to the landing we found it was "The Favorite".

We knew it was a small old boat but being in a hurry, I decided to go ahead on the first boat. Besides, a neighbor of Aunt Mollie's, Mrs. Burr Wright, was at the landing starting home with her brother-in-law, Spurlock Belcher, who lived just below Elkhorn City near her old home. So I was satisfied to go on with her. As we went through the cabin we noticed several men around the table. At the moment I did not recognize anyone except Dr. I.E. Gray who lived in Pikeville and was a very good friend of our family. Then I felt safe, though we knew the river was almost at flood stage.

The Favorite had no accommodations for ladies except to sit in the pilot house with the pilot. When Mr. Belcher took us to the pilot house, we met old Mr. Adkins, the pilot, and two salesmen (drummers, we called them then) on their way to Pikeville. One was Jake Rariden of Cattlettsburg, the other, Mr. O'Dell of Boston, on his first trip up Big Sandy. (They got a skiff next day and returned to Cattlettsburg and I don't know if Mr. O'Dell ever came to Pikeville.)

Mr. Adkins was very friendly and talked to all of us. The salesmen stayed in the pilot house awhile and when they went downstairs, they left their overcoats on the straight backed chairs for make shift cushions so we girls could rest more comfortably.

About midnight the boat landed to unload some freight. After the boat started again we found we had changed pilots. This new one didn't pay any attention to us but kept yelling to the men to keep out of his light. After sometime we met another boat going down the river. That pilot was Rhodes Owens, another Pike Countian. He called to "The Favorite's" pilot and said, "Tie up below George's Creek and wait till after day light. There is a tree, or some trees, lodged in the river." The pilot did not heed the advice.

After awhile we felt a hard jolt. I said, "Aren't we on that tree?" The pilot said, "Yes." The boat began to tilt sideways. I said, "Aren't we turning over?" He said, "Yes." Rose and I both started for the window, but the pilot said, "Wait a minute," and out he went. We made another jump for the window and lodged there, Rose fell on the outside and I slipped back inside. He reached back and caught my dress and helped me through the window. The water was pouring in and the steam flying. The man seemed dazed. I began saying, "What will we do, where will we go?" He didn't know any more than we did, but Captain Davidson jumped out of the "doghouse", a little room just back of the pilot house and said, "Come this way."

Rose was smaller than I and was nearer to him. She whirled around and he caught her up and ran along the roof of the boat with her, with me at his heels. By the time we were halfway to the rear of the boat most all the men were already in the treetop. They came rushing up the back stairway from the lower cabin where water was almost knee deep the boat was sinking fast. The men and boys were climbing all over the tree trunk or trunks and the branches or limbs that were out of the water. (I had a letter from Rose a few days ago saying she would never forget that trip and how we climbed out of the pilot house.) Some of the men were already in the tree top and waved their lanterns and said, "Don't be scared, we will get you off."

Dr. Gray was firmly seated on the tree and Capt. Davidson helped Rose to him. Then the Captain stood on the log and I sat on the edge of the boat roof with my hands on his shoulders. In a few minutes when everybody had calmed down a little, Mr. Raridan said, "I am going into the pilot house and get some things out before the stove turns over and burns them." They helped me out on the tree with Dr. Gray, Rose and Capt. Davidson and Mr. Raridan rescued overcoats, capes, hats, etc. Fortunately, the pilot house did not burn.

There was another "drummer" on the boat - a Mr. Ward from near Paintsville. As the men came up the stairway a box fell and struck Mr. Ward on the head, but he was not hurt too seriously.

This all happened near Elliott Prestons home at the mouth of George's Creek about four or five o'clock a.m., March 1, 1897.

Of course, help came to us in a short time (which did not seem short to us). And this is the way we got off the tree into the skiff which could not quite reach our resting place among the limbs. Two of the men said, "Give us your hands and we will swing you over." Had we failed to make the right "swing" we would more than likely have gone down in the river. The water was running between the boat and our refuge. Several of the men were from Rose's home neighborhood and knew us. Spectators said we looked like a flock of chickens in a tree, and there was quite a number. The first skiff that came took the injured man, Mr. Ward, and us two women to shore and we were welcomed to Mr.

Preston's home. Mr. Preston's family fed a large crowd at breakfast that morning and several of us stayed all day until another boat came up the next morning.

My trunk floated out and quite a distance down the river where it was caught by John Hickman who brought it back to Mr. Preston's that day.

So many people asked, "Weren't you scared?" Silly questions, but I said, "Not much; for the worst danger was over so quickly we didn't have time to be scared." There was quite a lot of excitement when the boat began sinking, two or three young men jumped into the roaring, raging water and nearly everybody thought they were lost, but they were excellent swimmers and reached shore safely. God must have helped them. I know he cared for me and Rose.

Capt. Davidson looked to be about the age of my father and was slightly baldheaded like Dad. I'll never forget him and Dr. Gray if I live to be a thousand years old.

When we walked out on the bank, a few hours after the wreck, the water was running over the middle of the roof of the Favorite and both ends of the boat were standing out of the water.

A few days ago Rose sent me the names of six of our fellow passengers. They were: Newton Ramey, Jim Thornbury, Newton Blair, Spurlock Belcher, Thomas Owens, and Delman Mullins. There are all dead except the last two. John Rasnick is also dead.

On this date, March, 1954, I am almost 83 years old and Rose is 81. I was raised on the banks of the Big Sandy River, in Johnson County near Paintsville, but have lived in Pike County Sixty-six years. I enjoy reading "The River Roundup" as I remember most of the boats that have run up and down Big Sandy for the last seventy-five years.

There was an article in Ashland Daily in 1953 which told about Fred J. Adams finding an anchor with the name "Favorite" stamped in the metal. Mr. Adams found the anchor buried in sand near the shore at mouth of George's Creek, 12 miles up the Levisa from Louisa, Kentucky.

The Favorite was constructed at South Point, Ohio in 1870. It was one of the largest steamers to ever run in its trade, having been 103 feet long, 148 feet wide but with hull depth of only 22 feet. With this shallow hull the Favorite was able to navigate in a foot and a half of water and could certainly have gone far up Levisa Fork.

The Favorite was classified as a "batwing" -- The term was applied to these shallow-draft little steamboats that had wide, fast-rolling, exposed side wheels projecting far out from each side of the hull.

The Favorite was large enough that it was sometimes called into service on the Ohio to replace a large steamer which had been laid up for low-water.

COUNTRY BORN

By

Truda McCoy

I am of the country, I was born
among Kentucky hills, and as a child
I swung from grapevine swings, and looked below
three hundred feet - unthinking of a fall.
I knew great cliffs where wine-tipped columbine--
the bell-like ballerinas--danced and bowed
to varied music of the vagrant wind,
and watched the bee, with leveled, golden lance,
steal hidden sweets.

At night, I saw the stars
glow luminous and take the shape of friends
grouped in a special way as if they met
at church on Sunday, while the preacher moon
shone in his silver cloak and blessed the world.
I saw the silhouettes of trees and peaks
against the sky, take unknown shapes, and saw
new outlines in the scraggly pasture fence
and rustic bridge.

At night, I heard new songs:
Blithe streams of sweet, far-reaching melody
from hidden brooks, and from the dew-cool leaves
that rustled in the misty-fingered wind.
I heard new songs of insects waking in
a wonder-world of creeping shadows, pierced
by silver arrows of the moon and stars
that pinned white fleece upon the whispering grass.
I, later, saw the city's neon lights
change with a rapidness that left my brain
befogged with dizziness; I saw the smoke
belch upward till the heavens turned to gray,
while sickly, yellow fingers of the sun
groped hopelessly...I saw the gray stone towers
soot-blackened, standing solidly, that blocked
my sight and hemmed me in with humans, who
were captives in the strangle-hold of toil.

I am of the country and my roots
curve under anchored stones; my heart beholds
earth-rivers running through the narrow leaves;
the universal sun snared by a flower,
and I am satisfied.

When I have passed
the evening's portal, I will be content
if summer winds weave grasses over me,
and trees stir softly...waving sun-kissed fronds
in answer to the whisperings of God!

BRIEF HISTORY OF SOUTHLAND BIBLE INSTITUTE

Pikeville, Ky. 41501

The Southland Evangelistic Center was founded and incorporated in February, 1942. Then in 1945 the name was changed to The Southland Bible Institute.

In 1941, Rev. and Mrs. J.S. Otteson were invited to hold a dozen regional conferences for the spiritual refreshing of Christian workers in the mountain area of four states. At that time, they were deeply impressed with the large number of fine unspoiled young people, who would make excellent Christian workers, pastors, evangelists, foreign and home missionaries, if they were given the opportunity for training.

Rev. Paul Zimmerman, a Christian worker from the mountains, heard Mr. Otteson speak in Chicago, concerning a short term training school for young people in India that was a success in preparing them to win their own to Christ. He became convinced that this type of training was exactly what was needed in the mountains, especially since so much good work was being done among the children who needed to be followed up as they became young adults. Mr. Zimmerman then discussed this matter with other Christian workers. Rev. Elmer Wagler took the lead to invite the Ottesons for the above mentioned regional conference. The outcome was a request, from several workers, for the Ottesons to give up going back to India, where they had spent thirteen years in missionary work, and come to the mountains to establish a training center. The Rev. Elmer Wagler located the fine property at Wolfpit on Marrowbone Creek.

While the Ottesons were praying, much, about this under-taking, they, in the guidance of God, met a fine Christian business man, Mr. George Hedberg, who was general manager of the Severance Tool Company at that time. Mr. Hedberg became a very important link in the chain. Through him, Mr. Rollin Severance, owner of Severance Tool Company, was contacted. Soon after that, Mr. Otteson was asked to speak to a meeting of the Christian Business Men's Committee in Saginaw, Michigan, by invitation of Mr. Severance. Eventually, Mr. Severance, who already had a God-given burden for this area, was led to offer \$5,000 to help purchase the Wolfpit property, and within a week, another man, Mr. George Gorton of Racine, Wisconsin, gave the balance that was needed for the purchase of the property, besides the option cost, which had been donated by another Christian business man, Mr. A.W. Beckstrom of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Beckstrom helped a great deal in erecting the administration building, and securing materials that were difficult to secure at that time, and bringing into being the physical setup, which was necessary. All this, with other guidance, seemed to make it clear that God was leading in the matter. Like Paul felt, as recorded in Acts 16:10, "assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them".

The Southland Evangelistic Center was established to offer intensive Bible centric courses to young people of this area. The purpose was to establish these young people in the Christian faith and to develop their

spiritual lives, enabling them to become spiritual powers in their homes, local churches, communities, and to the ends of the earth, regardless of denominational affiliation.

In the summer of 1943, the first group of thirty-five young people gathered at the Southland Evangelistic Center, and the results were more than gratifying. Some young people came unsaved and received Christ as Lord and Master. The Christians went away with a firmer faith and greater devotion to Christ and a deeper desire to be helpful in Christian service in their home communities. This type of work developed and grew for three years. Then, as Mr. Otteson recognized the fine quality in the young people of this area, he felt led to seek advice of other Christian workers, who had been in the area longer, of the advisability of opening a three-year Bible Institute program. He was urged to go ahead and organize a fulltime Bible Institute, they, promising their support and interest.

In September, 1945, sufficient staff was added in order to offer a three-year Bible Institute course. Mr. Lester Pipkin was the first dean of the school. This began in a small way, with fourteen students the first year, twenty-eight the next, and that number being almost doubled the third year.

The aim of the Institute was to keep it a small school where personal attention and thorough training could be given, not just to give an academic knowledge of the Bible, but, also, train each one to work with his hands, create a willingness to do the menial such as building and repair, lawn upkeep, cooking, cleaning, and all the other tasks that go with keeping a mission station operating.

The Institute has grown from a small beginning of two buildings to the present fourteen, which consists of an administration and academic building, boy's dormitory, girl's dormitory, Institute dining room and kitchen quarters, cottages for G.I.'s with families and good residences for faculty and staff.

Real estate and equipment are valued at about \$150,000. All this has come about through His people who are interested in training young people for the Lord's service.

The work has no organization on which it depends for its finances, nor is it backed by many wealthy persons. Gifts, on the average, are very small in men's eyes, but doubtless, large, in His sight.

The property is held by a Board of Directors so there would never be any personal ownership of any property. The directors are not responsible for any debt incurred nor beneficiaries of any property held. If the Institute ceases to function, the property will be sold and proceeds given to other established Christian work.

After twenty years as president of the Institute, with much hard work but joyous labor, the Ottesons felt it was time for them to retire from the work and turn it over to younger hands. Thus, in 1961, Mr. Otteson resigned from the Institute, and a year later from the Southland Bible Church, which he also founded. Mrs. Otteson is a very unusual versatile and talented woman, and has served in a great variety of responsibilities at Southland.

She has meant more to Southland Bible Institute than ever will be recognized. The two are still members of the Board of Directors, and Mr. Otteson is now conducting the Bible Truth Hour, a daily broadcast over WLSI, which has continued for eighteen years. He also visits two hospitals and finds a great ministry there, as well as in the community. Mrs. Otteson, besides keeping a fine home, does all the secretarial work, and helps a great deal in counseling, as the result of radio contacts.

When Mr. Otteson retired, a former graduate of the Institute, Mr. Raymond Childress, was called to be president of the Institute. He is well acquainted with the purpose of the Institute in evangelistic work and youth conferences. Thus, the meaning of the emblem of the school, "The Torch Bearers", is being carried out as younger runners take up the torch.

During the year of 1967, one of the fine residences in Wolfpit was purchased, and with it were three lots on which the small G.I. cottages, built during the war when materials were scarce, will be moved, and then a beautiful sight, in the midst of the campus, will be available for a new library building and boy's dormitory. God, in a remarkable way, laid it upon the heart of a friend, Miss Ruth Houston, to donate the full price for this property.

Now, there is great opportunity for those who are interested in winning and establishing young people, also training them for service, to have a part in erecting more buildings, and standing by in prayer. The immediate need seems to be a new building to house a girl's dormitory and larger dining room and kitchen facilities.

For all that has been accomplished, to God, the glory. Great is His faithfulness.



The Ottesons



Raymond Childress

EXCERPTS FROM
A BRIEF SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

By

Sylvia Trent Auxier and Nancy Elliott Harp

AND

REPORTS TO THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Searching the records of the Pike County Fiscal Court for the origin of the Pike County Health Department, we find, among many appropriations for roads, rights-of-way, bridges, the beginning of the Agricultural Association and the first County Agent, in the spring of 1926 an order issued allowing Dr. J.W. Vicars fifty dollars (\$50.00) for expenses in attending a meeting of county and city health officers in Louisville, Ky. This was the beginning of the consciousness of the need for public health in Pike County.

No doubt this action came because of diligent efforts of Anna E. Sims, a worker for the State Board of Health. She had been in Pike County, December 1-3, 1925 and called on: Mr. Trivett, Cashier of National Bank; Mr. Fonso Wright, the County Superintendent; Mr. Olliver, the City School Superintendent; Mrs. John Langley, Chairman of the Woman's Club; Dr. J.F. Record, President of the Presbyterian School; Mr. Fred Brockwell, Secretary of Kiwanis Club; Dr. Flannery, President of Rotary Club; Mr. George A. Cooper, Secretary of Chamber of Commerce; Dr. J.W. Vicars, the health officer; Dr. Z.A. Thompson; Dr. M.D. Flanary; Dr. W.J. Walters; Mr. J.W. Pruitt, the County Judge, elect; and Mr. Zack Justice, County Attorney, elect. She returned on February 11, 1926, and saw about one half these people again.

She was again in Pike County in the early part of April, 1926. This time she called on some other people. They included (according to her report:) Mrs. Zack Justice; Linton Trivette; T.H. Harmon; Sen. E.D. Stephens; Hi Pauley; A.C. Osborne; Mrs. I.M. Williams; Lon Willman; Mrs. Wellman; Mrs. Robert Elliott. She asked for and received help from several of the people she had interviewed when she appeared in Fiscal Court that week.

On November 30, of the same year, an appropriation of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) was allowed for the establishing of a Department of Health in Pike County. Hon. J.W. Pruitt was county judge; the magistrates were: Stephen Osborne, W.J. May, John Robinson, George M. Justice; Orville Senters, Abner May and G.W. Thompson. Dr. M.D. Flanary was chairman of the Board of Health and others on the Board were: Judge Pruitt, Zack Justice, who was also county attorney, and Mr. Sidney Ratliff, lay member.

In order that the Health Department might have rooms furnished and ready to use, the Pikeville Woman's Club gave up their club room on Grace Avenue, over what is now Louis' Cafe. Dr. N.J. Keith was the first health officer.

The department embarked on an immunization voyage which was stormy indeed. The inoculations for typhoid, known and feared, were accepted; but the vaccinations for smallpox, which was rare, were refused unconditionally. The health

officer and nurses visiting the schools found empty rooms for the children had fled in terror.

Gradually, through education and observation, the resistance to the inoculations and vaccinations lessened, especially since our men returned from World War II. Today protection from disease is an accepted fact.

However, inoculations were not the only preventive measures taken. A Sanitarian had been added to the staff who visited the schools and made every effort to obtain sanitary drinking water and toilet facilities for our people. People began using, through the Health Department, the State laboratory to have milk and water supplies tested and to receive protection from rabid dogs.

About the time our people had grown accustomed to and appreciative of his services, Dr. Keith departed for another county. There were not enough nurses trained in public health work to meet the demand; our roads were mud, mostly, our salaries were low and the department suffered a low ebb. Miss Mary Auxier, as clerk, held the field for a while and the doctors in the clinic across the street carried on the necessary work. (The office was, at that time, in the Pauley building on Caroline Avenue.)

The next health officer who stayed for any length of time was Dr. F.W. Forge. Under him a program for the treatment of venereal diseases was launched. Under Dr. H.K. Bailey, (here 1938-42), this program grew and, during World War II, received special federal appropriation employing extra physicians, nurses and clerks. At that time our Health Department was at its peak in personnel.

A mobile dentil unit was brought into our county and clinics were held at various places in the county. The personnel of the department maintained a watch for the welfare of crippled children, tuberculosis patients, etc. The Rotary Club furnished transportation to the clinics and the Woman's Club furnished lunch for the Crippled Children's Clinics held each year in Pikeville.

The midwives in the county, recognized as a vital and necessary part of the Public Health program, were trained to do their work with better methods of sanitation. Clinics were offered and each year they came to Pikeville for an annual training period.

The inspection of eating places, rooming houses and hotels is a part of the program.

One of the most important services rendered by the department are the pre-natal and baby clinics held in various sections. Here the mothers learn to care for themselves and their babies, and to understand the importance of the prevention of disease.

In 1972, Dr. Mary Pauline Fox is working diligently with individuals and groups. The Department has outposts in five communities. These are Feds Creek; Elkhorn City; Belfry; Phelps; and Virginia.

The emphasis in health services now is toward family (especially, the planning of) instead of toward school children. There are no shots given in Pike County schools now. There is no longer a requirement for a smallpox vaccination. Clinics are held in the Department at Pikeville.



THE PIKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Bruce Francisco, Sanitarian
Doug Ison, Sanitarian
Darrel Gooslin, Sanitarian
Gary Coleman, Sanitarian
Joy Blackburn, Clerk
Jane Salyer, Nurse
Geraldine Walker, Nurse
Pearl Thornbury, Clerk
Dollye Curry, Nurse
Priscilla Hackworth, Nurse
Mary Pauline Fox, M.D., Health Officer
Anna R. Cantrell, Clerk
Olive Jones, X-Ray Technician
Barbara Beane, Clerk
Justene Ratliff, Nurse
Wilma Maynard, Nurse

PIKE COUNTY WRITERS

By

Leonard Roberts, Ph.D.

The literature and the arts of the Eastern Kentucky people before the 20th century were in the form of oral songs and music, oral stories and legends, dances, handicrafts and the like. Now in the 20th century, with the rough mountains subdued to the plow and the hoe and the hills leveled for cars, trains, and even air travel, the mountain people have more leisure and time to improve their quality of life, to practice the many forms of arts, and become aware of the beauty and the charm and dignity of life we brought here from our British and other backgrounds.

In short, we have had in the last few decades a flowering of arts and letters in the colorful mountains of Pike County. Many men and women of all ages and occupations have been trying their hands at literary expression, as the thirty-three names below make clear. We have had writers who have reached state, even national and possibly international recognition for their poetry, stories, and especially books and booklets for children. The people recognized below have been born in Pike County, or have come here and lived and worked long enough to sink their roots down and to become welcome and adopted by the hospitable folk of the county. We have not had space to enter a full biography and bibliography of our writers, but with this beginning we hope to keep our records up-to-date and will welcome any additions to this list. Send them and your queries to the Pike County Historical Society, Pikeville, Kentucky.

JOSEPH W. ALLEY of Pike County has done a family history : Alden Williamson Genealogy.

SYLVIA TRENT AUXIER, Route 1, Pikeville, Ky. author of many volumes of poetry: Meadow Rue, 1948; No Stranger to the Earth, 1957; With Thorn and Stone, 1968. Deceased 1967. Wife of lawyer Gene Auxier; son Michael.

JACK W. BARTLEY of Pike County, now of Texas. Author of The Badge in Pikeville and Pike County, Kentucky, 1969.

BRUCE B. BROWN, Zebulon, Pike County, Ky., editor of Twigs and of Bastian Review; author of book of poems Hands of Winter, a play Broken Pots, poems in many magazines.

JESSIE J. BROWN, daughter of William M. Justice of Pike County, now of Orlando, Florida. She has appeared in anthologies of poetry; A Brief Anthology of Kentucky Poetry, 1936; Echoes of Faith, 1970; Outstanding Contemporary Poetry, 1972.

IRA J. CAUDILL while a teacher in Pikeville High School authored these books of poetry: Reverent Rhymes, 1952; Chiefly for Children, 1954.

LILLIE D. CHAFFIN, A.B., MA., of Meta, Pike County, librarian at Kemper School. She is the author of hundreds of poems, scores of short stories, and several books: Lines and Points, 1966; John Henry McCoy, 1971; Bear Weather; 1969; A Stone for Sisypheus, 1967.

GAYLE COMPTON of Jonancy, Pike County, A.B., poet, now with a coal company. He has published in Twigs, Approaches, other literary magazines.

JOHN PAUL COMPTON of Pikeville, now with the Pike County News, A.B., journalist, feature writer. He has been on the staff of many newspapers, and has written hundreds of human interest, feature, and news articles.

HERBERT WOODSON CRICK, author of History of Education in Pike County, 1960.

DAVID DESKINS, Pikeville, A.B., producer of plays, poet. He has appeared in Wind, Folio, Twigs, and others.

PHILLIP EPLING, Elkhorn City, bookkeeper for Elkhorn Coal, and has done a History of the Baptist People.

LOIS S. HIERS of Canada, Pike County, Ky., author of My House and My Country (poetry), 1958; she has appeared in many magazines of verse.

DEWEY R. HONAKER of Pike County. He has recently edited these books: 1850 Census of Pike County, Kentucky, 1970; First Population Census of Pike County, Kentucky--1830, 1964.

QUENTIN R. HOWARD of Route 1, Pikeville, Ky., A.B., M.A., teacher and assistant principal of Pike County schools. He has edited Leaves of Laurel, and at present the magazine Wind. Author of essays Down a Dust Road, 1967; and now a long poem, Tell Me No Sad Tales.

R.A. JUSTICE of Fishtrap, Pike County, A.B., life-long teacher and principal. He compiled the history of his family tree: Justice Genealogy, 1971. Deceased.

WILLIAM H. JUSTICE, JR. of Fishtrap, Pike County, life-long teacher and postmaster, poet. He authored Home, Hills and Heaven, 1952 and other volumes of poetry.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY JUSTICE of Upper Chloe, Pike County, A.B., teacher, poet. He wrote the following volumes: Tears and Laughter and Other Poems, 1934; Acorns of Gold, 1949; Take Time to Stroll, 1965. Deceased in 1968.

LAURA KEATHLY of Route 2, Pikeville. She has published short stories in the Courier-Journal Magazine and in Mountain Life and Work.

ALICE J. KINDER, A.B., of Upper Chloe, daughter of William M. Justice; she has been a teacher for many years and writes for educational journals, etc. Some of her 150 stories have appeared in The War Cry, Home Life, Christian Living, The Lookout, NEA Journal; edited Climbing Steps; a history of the Grace Baptist Church of East Shalbiana; a poem in the Kentucky State Poetry Society Anthology, 1971.

JOHN W. LANGLEY, Pikeville, congressman of Eastern Kentucky. Published book: They Tried to Crucify Me, 1929.

TRUDA MCCOY of Route 1, Pikeville, teacher. She has published poetry widely, including these books of poetry: Winds Will Quote, 1962; Till the Frost, 1952; The Tempter's Harvest, 1954.

R.B. MAYNARD of McCombs, Pike County, has done the family history: Christopher Maynard Generation, 1958.

MONNETTE MARIE NAIRN of Pike County has published a booklet of poems: Journeying, 1967.

JOHN PRESTON of Pike County, now in Mexico City, A.B., poet. He has appeared in Twigs, Plain Brown Wrapper, and other literary magazines.

G.C. RATLIFF of Upper Chloe, Pike County, a journalist and historian. His articles appeared in Message, Army Times, Mountain Life and Work, Grit, Courier-Journal, Bristol Herald, Huntington Herald-Dispatch. Deceased.

PAUL E. RATLIFF of Rockhouse, Pike County, journalist, speech and free-lance writer. His articles have appeared in True Story, Male, Popular Mechanics, Mountain Life and Work, Jack and Jill, Oregonizer, Sawdust, The Upper Room, Christian Science Monitor, Grit, Arkansas Democrat, Columbus Dispatch, Bristol Herald.

LEONARD ROBERTS of Floyd County and now Pike County, A.B., M.A., Ph.D., teacher, folklorist. He has a hundred folktales and articles in magazines, and the following folklore and folkways volumes: I Bought Me A Dog, 1954; South From Hell-fer-Sartin, 1955, Up Cutshin and Down Greasy, 1959; Tales and Songs of the Couch Family, 1959; Old Greasybeard, 1969.

HENRY P. (BUCK) SCALF, teacher, journalist, historian of Pike and Floyd counties. He has done many hundreds of articles and a dozen booklets on pioneers, as well as the book Kentucky's Last Frontier, and edits the family tree magazine East Kentuckian.

EFFIE WALLER SMITH, Black writer of Upper Chloe. She produced a volume of poetry: Rhymes of the Cumberland. Deceased.

GEORGE D. TRENT of Route 1, Pikeville, now with the New York Times. He has many poems in various magazines, and the book The Gentle Art of Walking, 1971.

VIRGINIA CASEY TURNER of Casey and Floyd counties, late of Pikeville. She published many poems and prose-poems in Poetry, Twigs, and other literary magazines; a collection due from Pikeville College Press: Cat Claws and Tree Bark, 1972. Deceased.

DOROTHY WARD of Pikeville, A.B. She has done a study in Pikeville College: The Life and Literature of Lillie D. Chaffin, copyfax, 1970.

COLIN YOUNG of Pikeville, now personnel manager for a coal company, B.S., M.A., teacher, poet. He has appeared in Twigs, Wind and other literary magazines.

Editor's Note: This name was turned in late.

DAVID V. HAWPE, a journalist, was born in Pike County. He has been with the Associated Press and The Times, in St. Petersburg, Florida, as an editorial writer. Now associate editor with the Louisville Courier-Journal.

POST OFFICES IN PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Aflex | 41510 | McCarr | 41544 |
| Argo | 11 | McCombs | 45 |
| Ashcamp | 12 | McVeigh | 46 |
| Belcher | 13 | Majestic | 47 |
| Belfrey | 14 | Meta | 01 |
| Biggs | 15 | Millard | 01 |
| Broad Bottom | 16 | Mouthcard | 48 |
| Burnwell | 18 | Myra | 49 |
| Canada | 19 | Nelse | 50 |
| Coal Run | 01 | Owsley | 01 |
| Dorton | 20 | Paw Paw | 51 |
| Draffin | 21 | Phelps | 53 |
| Elkhorn City | 22 | Phyllis | 54 |
| Etty | 23 | Pikeville | 01 |
| Fed's Creek | 24 | Pinsonfork | 55 |
| Fishtrap | 25 | Raccoon | 57 |
| Ford's Branch | 26 | Ransom | 58 |
| Forest Hills | 27 | Regina | 59 |
| Freeburn | 28 | Robinson Creek | 60 |
| Goody | 29 | Rockhouse | 61 |
| Gulnare | 30 | Shelbiana | 62 |
| Hardy | 31 | Shelby Gap | 63 |
| Hartley | 32 | Sidney | 64 |
| Hellier | 34 | Steele | 66 |
| Huddy | 35 | Stone | 67 |
| Jamboree | 36 | Stopover | 68 |
| Jonancy | 38 | Toler | 69 |
| Kimper | 39 | Turkey Creek | 70 |
| Lick Creek | 40 | Varney | 71 |
| Lionelli | 41 | Virgie | 72 |
| Lookout | 42 | Woodman | 74 |
| McAndrews | 43 | Zebulon | 01 |

POPULATION GROWTH OF PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

| | | |
|------|---|--------|
| 1830 | - | 2,677 |
| 1840 | - | 3,507 |
| 1850 | - | 5,365 |
| 1860 | - | 7,384 |
| 1870 | - | 9,562 |
| 1880 | - | 13,001 |
| 1890 | - | 17,378 |
| 1900 | - | 22,686 |
| 1910 | - | 31,679 |
| 1920 | - | 49,477 |
| 1930 | - | 63,267 |
| 1940 | - | 71,122 |
| 1950 | - | 81,186 |
| 1960 | - | 68,264 |
| 1970 | - | 61,059 |

DOCTORS IN PIKE COUNTY

By

Mrs. George Thornbury (Edith Walters)

Life of a doctor seventy or more years ago was a 24 hour a day job. They made house calls day or night, in any kind of weather. They walked or rode horseback. They usually kept two horses because they had to make such long trips - John's Creek, Head of Island Creek, Shelby and many other long trips. They doctored their patients in the homes at night with only oil lamps or lanterns for a light.

The pay was small, \$1.00 for a call in town, but little more on a long trip. They only charged \$5.00 to deliver a baby. Some of the calls were made without charge. The doctor might even give them a dollar if the family was in need of food or coal to warm the house in the winter. Sometimes the doctor was paid with eggs, chickens or vegetables.

Some of the doctors of the 1800's and early 1900's were: Dr. James N. Draper, (died-1853) whose daughter married Dr. Dean; Dr. Dean was father of Bird, who married James Matney, and Katherine, who married David L. Francis.

Dr. S.M. Ferguson, (died-1904) married a Weddington, one of their sons was J. Lee Ferguson, who was publisher and editor of The Pikeville Times in 1887. Dr. J.E. Gray began practice in Pikeville about 1867 and practiced in Pike County for 49 years. He married Emma Faust, their children were: Sidney, who was in the first class to graduate from Pikeville Collegiate Institute; Will W. Gray, who lived in Pikeville many years, and Clara, who married a Shirley and moved to Virginia.

Dr. Benjamin F. Kelly, who married Rhoda Stump, daughter of George and Elizabeth Williams Stump in 1868. Dr. W.A. Campbell came to Pikeville about 1889 and married Katherine York. Dr. Maynard and Dr. Jackson may have lived on John's Creek.

Dr. J.W. Vickers came to Pike County before 1900 and married Virgie Maynard. Their children were Sally, who married Ralph Dotson, and Joe, who married Emogene Hawkins.

Dr. Z.A. Thompson, Dr. Marion Pinson (born Dec. 1859-died Feb. 1941, was never married.) Dr. Van Pinson, Dr. P.A. Loar, who was in Pikeville about 1904, Dr. H.H. Stallard, whose son died in the flu epidemic while he was in service during World War I.

Dr. Mose Adkins lived at Millard. He was a brother to Dr. John Adkins, a dentist. Dr. Wm. J. Walters (b. Dec. 1867-d. March 1962) came to Pikeville in 1900. He married Margaret Elliott in 1889. They had two sons, Arba, who lives in Ephrata, Washington and U.S. who died in 1950. Margaret Walters died in 1894. In 1895 Wm. J. Walters went to Knoxville, Tennessee to medical school. After finishing there he attended University of Louisville, graduating in 1900. Wm. Jefferson Walters was one of fifteen children born to Winfrey and Elizabeth Preston Walters of Johnson County.

On July 12, 1900, Dr. W.J. Walters married Mary Elizabeth Syck, daughter of George and Amanda Wheeler Syck. Their children were: twins, b. May 24, 1901 - Daniel George who died February 1902 and Walter Preston, married Judith Fitzpatrick. Twins, b. June 3, 1905 - William Robert, married Daisibel Utley and Amanda Elizabeth, married Charles Prater. Amanda died in August, 1936. Edith Margaret (b. Sept. 25, 1908) married George T. Thornbury.

Dr. Walters traveled many miles to visit the sick in Pike County, riding horseback, any hour night or day. He was the poor man's friend - a Christian doctor. He had an office in Pikeville until 1926 when he accepted a position with Semet - Solvay Coke Company as their physician at Henry Clay, Kentucky. He remained with the Semet - Solvay Coke Company until January 1943 when he resigned to retire, since he was 76 years of age at the time. In 1944 Dr. Flanary asked him to take over the Pike County Health Department until another doctor could be found. Dr. Walters had been associated with the county health department at different times since 1904, and felt a great interest in it because of the services it rendered to the people. He could not refuse the request of Dr. Flanary. After two and a half years, he was tired and needed a rest so he asked the county health board to please get someone to relieve him and again he retired. In 1952 he was again asked to help by coming back to the health department, this time he served until 1955. Pike County's Health Center, completed in 1954, at a cost of \$164,000 was dedicated to Dr. W.J. Walters because of his service to Pike County. He served as Health Officer four times and these periods were: 1904-1906, 1916-1920, 1944-1947, and 1952-1955.

Dr. E.P. Walters (b. 1880, d. 1947) was a younger brother of Dr. W.J. Walters. Edgar P. Walters married first, Mousie Williams of Johnson county. They had one son, Judd, who lived only four months, and a daughter Lexie, who married Bill Johnson. Dr. E.P. Walters married second Ada Walker (daughter of Rev. Wm. and Tisha Combs Walker.) They came to Pike County about 1907. Their children: Elmon b. 1905, married first Mildred Parker, second Elizabeth Stapleton; Horace Grant, b. 1908, married Gladys Damron; Virginia, b. 1913, married George McGlothlin, second Ray Stout; Edgar Bruce, b. 1918, married Madge Childers.

Dr. O.K. Bond married 1909 to Minnie Leslie, daughter of Kenis Leslie. Their children were: Charles, b. 1910, d. 1955; Lucille, b. 1914, married Wm. B. Marrs; and Clotille, b. 1918, married Lenerd Horne.

Dr. A.C. Bond married their children were: Haskell who married Helen, daughter of Dr. Johnson; and a daughter, Neva.

Dr. Charles Bond married Cordella Tackett, daughter of Jay Tackett.

Dr. N.W. Craft married Birdie Lynn Ford. Their children: Thomas Lynn b. 1902, married Blanche Henry; Tennyson M. b. 1905; James W. b. 1907; Portia M. b. 1909; Virgie V. b. January 1913 - lived only five days; Dwight M. b. 1916. Both Dr. and Mrs. Craft died during the 1918 flu epidemic and their children went to live with their mother's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Marrs, in West Virginia.

Dr. Lauche Thornbury (b. 1877, d. 1915) married Pearl Scott, they had one son, James Martin who married Winfield Burchett. Dr. Thornbury married second Vicy Charles, they had a daughter who died when a baby.

Dr. R.S. Johnson (d. 1940) married Betty Mitchell, they had one son, Kermit who was also a doctor. He married Sue Barber, and a daughter, Helen, who married first, Charles Epperson, second Haskell Bond, son of Dr. A.C. Bone.

Dr. S.B. Casebolt married and had one son Arthur and a daughter Estell who married first Fred Woody and Second George Reynolds. Dr. Casebolt married second.... Dr. M. Don Flanary married Nell Bevins, no children. Dr. Adam G. Osborne married Polly Morrow and have one daughter, Linda Lou,, who married Dr. Harvey A. Page. Drs. Casebolt, Flanary and Osborne served in World War I.

Dr. C. Clinton Wheeler b. 1881, married Gypsie Spencer. Their children: Lucelle, married Marvin Ratliff; Hallard; and Godfrey, who married Frances Jenkins.

Dr. J.C. Preston was at Hellier before coming to Pikeville. He has one daughter who married Jean Auxier.

Dr. Paul Gronnerud was born in Wisconsin, married Amalie Groner, and had a son Hubert, and a daughter, Dorothy.

Dr. R.W. Raynor came to Pikeville about 1917, to help at the Trachoma Hospital. He and his first wife had twin girls, Virginia, who married Dr. Wm. Clark; and Helen, who married Dr. Raynor married second Sara Williamson.

Dr. Henry Kaminiski married their children: Henry, lives in Louisville, Kentucky; John, who is a doctor and lives at Melbourne, Florida; and Vivian who married Bill Barnette.

Dr. Frank A. Vernon and wife, Elizabeth, came to Pikeville about 1940, their children: Elizabeth, married Franklin Dee Parson; Frances married Jim Cline; Martha, and Ann. After Dr. Vernon's death, Mrs. Vernon and family moved to Florida.

Dr. Prichard was at Harold. He married Elizabeth Hatcher or Layne. They had one daughter, Virginia.

Dr. A. Lewis married Calla Preston and lived at Elkhorn City.

Dr. Goble Newsome married Zettie Childers, lived at Elkhorn City. Their children were Goble, Jr. and Faye.

Others included: Dr. F.H. Hodges; Dr. T.I. Doty; Dr. Matthew, Pond Creek; Dr. Dotson, Peter Creek; Dr. W.J. Smith, Belfry; Drs. Deskins, Dempsey, Gibson and Looney, all of Elkhorn City; and Dr. Bill Johnson of Virgie.



THE COAL CAPITOL
OF THE WORLD

OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE

Wayne J. Rutherford

JUDGE



The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, on Dec. 19, 1821, passed an Act establishing the County of Pike. Five Justices of the Peace were appointed to carry out the intent of this Act. They put the Act into effect on March 4, 1822. The Justices of the Peace were:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Simon Justice | Rheuben Rutherford | James Roberts |
| John Hunt | | John Bevins |

The first meeting of these Justices of the Peace was held at the home of Spencer Adkins. On that day in March of 1822, I am sure these men had many thoughts of the future. The following, I am confident, are some of the thoughts and beliefs these men had on that spring day of 150 years ago. "The government is the people -- we are the government. We are forming this county government and we do not intend for it to be run solely on a business basis. It shall also be human. It shall always have a heart."

These men -- our forefathers -- brought forth a dream and it was formed not only in the needs of their times, but also the hopes of tomorrow. They must have had an unshaken faith in God, pride in themselves and love of their fellow man. They must have had a great loyalty to their county; they cared for their county and felt their duty lay not just in the area of earth, hills, streams and forests, but in patriotism and loyalty to their principles.

We have many times heard it said that dreams of the future are better than the history of the past. This, I question. Pike County has a history unequalled in this great country of ours. We, who today find

REPLY TO: PIKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE . . . MAIN STREET . . . PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY . . . 41501
TELEPHONE . . . AREA CODE . . . 606 . . . 432-2553

ourselves at the reigns of Pike County government, dream as our forefathers dreamed and strive to make our dreams become realities. We are working for better schools, better transportation systems, public water and sewage systems, solid waste systems, better housing, better health care, airport facilities, new industry, and standing up for our coal industry, which is so vital to our economy and our future. We must strive, as they did, to bring new approaches to solve old problems. We must realize that one of the greatest assets any county has is the leadership of its citizens. Pike County government needs your support in the future so we can bring Pike County into the mainstream of American life - so we can build a foundation today that will give our children a better county in which to live tomorrow. Together we are strong -- together we can progress. We have a proud heritage to live up to and we can.

During Pike County's Sesquicentennial Anniversary, we in County Government of Pike County invite you to visit your County offices and, whenever any public office in the County can be of service to you, feel free to call on us.


WAYNE T. RUTHERFORD
PIKE COUNTY JUDGE

1976 Pike County Officials:

County Judge - Wayne T. Rutherford
County Attorney - Joseph W. Justice
Circuit Judge, Div. 1 - Reed Anderson
Circuit Judge, Div. 2 - E. N. Venters
Commonwealth Attorney - John Paul Runyon
County Clerk - John Paul Blair
Circuit Clerk - Betty Prater Justice
Sheriff - William "Bill" Deskins
Property Valuation Admr. - T.T. Colley
Jailer - Walter Burke
County Treasurer - John Paul Burchett
State Senator - Kelsey Friend
State Representatives - Herbert Deskins, Jr.
N. Clayton Little

Magistrates

Wendell Gilliam
Clarence Newsome
Lee Robinson
Taylor Justice
Lacy Blackburn
Willie Green May
Wade Justice
Cowan Ratliff

FRANCIS, FRANCIS & TRIVETTE, INC.

General Insurance Since 1911

Pikeville National Bank Building

PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY

FIRE & ALLIED LINES
AUTOMOBILE
CASUALTY

COMPENSATION
SURETY BONDS
LIFE

Important! Self preservation is the first law of nature. Property preservation is the second. We beg to announce:

That we are now issuing policies of insurance against loss by Burglary, Theft and Larceny. Insure your residence, apartment, flat or stable whether occupied or unoccupied. Thefts by servants, employees and sneak thieves included. There never has been a time when this insurance was so necessary. A perusal of the daily papers will convey to you some idea of the many losses which are of daily occurrence, while others are never chronicled by the press.

The above announcement was made when Francis, Francis & Trivette, Incorporated, was organized in 1911 by James D. Francis, General Agent. As the coal business developed in the Big Sandy Valley, the agency was ready to assist by writing all classes of casualty and boiler insurance. When the Kentucky Workmen's Compensation was passed in 1915, the Associated Companies were organized to take care of this insurance, and through the Maryland Casualty Company this agency wrote practically all the Compensation Insurance in the Valley.

In 1916 the General Agency of Mr. Francis was enlarged and Mr. David L. Francis, Mr. Linton Trivette, and Miss Ethel Francis became associated with him, and the name of Francis, Francis & Trivette was adopted. At this time the classes of business written was enlarged to include fire insurance, and all the various lines of a General Insurance Agency. In 1921 Mr. John Scott Miller, of Virginia, became associated with the agency and upon the death of Mr. David L. Francis, in 1929, became General Manager and President of the agency. He served in this capacity until his death in 1954, at which time his wife, Mrs. Ethel Francis Miller, came out of retirement to become President. Mr. A.H. McCord took over the duties of General Manager at this time. Meanwhile, the agency was bringing in some new people. The year 1948 saw Sid Ratliff associated with Francis, Francis & Trivette, Inc. Upon the death of Mr. McCord in 1957, Mr. Edward L. Elder was brought in and became Executive Vice-President and General Manager of the Agency.

In February, 1972, Mrs. Miller stepped down from her post as President, due to failing health. Mr. Elder filled that vacancy. Francis, Francis & Trivette, Inc., the oldest insurance agency in the Sandy Valley, now writes all forms of insurance and surety bonds.



GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE JOHN JUSTICE FAMILY

By

Faye Helvey Burke (Mrs. Francis Dale Burke)

One May 22, 1752, John Justice bought 224 acres of land on Newfoundland Creek, Augusta County, Virginia, from James and Agness McCreery. This land was sold on May 17, 1754, to Michael Harper. Jno. Archer was a neighbor. We find John next in the 1767 tax list of Pittsylvania County, Virginia. His occupation was listed as shoemaker. His children known to have come to Eastern Kentucky were (1) Simeon, (2) William, (3) John, (4) Elizabeth, and (5) Mary (Polly).

(1) Simeon (son of John) was born in Pittsylvania County, Virginia on June 4, 1765. He stated in his Revolutionary Pension application that his father, John Justice, had recorded the date of his birth in the family bible which he left at the time of his death and which he supposed his mother left also when she died in South Carolina; that he went with his father from Virginia to Rutherford County, North Carolina (on November 11, 1773, John and Mary Justice of Pittsylvania County sold to Joseph Walker of Goochland County, Virginia, 100 acres on Harper's Creek, a tributary of Pig River, in the west part of Pittsylvania County); that from Rutherford County they went to Ninety Six District of South Carolina where he, his father, John Justice, and his brother, John Justice, volunteered for service at Fort Rutledge in June 1777. He was sent to Augusta, Georgia, and in June 1780 returned to Fort Rutledge where he was taken prisoner by the British. He was the company drummer and his brother John was the fifer. In the 1790 Census we find him in the Ninety Six District of Spartensburg County, South Carolina, with his wife, three sons and three daughters. In 1795 he moved to Tennessee where he lived until 1799, when he moved to Buncombe County, North Carolina.. He lived there until 1807 when he came to Floyd County, Kentucky.

Simeon was a Regular Baptist Minister. In 1809, Electious Thompson, William Salisbury and Simeon constituted the Presbytery that organized the first Baptist Church in Perry County, Kentucky. This church, the Indian Bottom Church, was taken from the North District Association organized the first Friday in October, 1802, in Clark County, Kentucky. (Perry County, Kentucky, - a History, Religious Growth, by Allie Daniel Gorman). These pioneers journeyed by foot, horseback, or ox cart through almost unbroken wilderness covering hundreds of miles attending associations, funerals and keeping church appointments. Simeon helped organize Sand Lick Church in Perry County, the Stone Coal Church in Floyd County and others.

At age 69 Simeon married Adelpia Carter Johnson, widow of Thomson Johnson, of Perry County. Prior to his marriage to Adelpia he had lived on Beaver Creek, Floyd County, Kentucky. He died in Perry County on January 16, 1846. Simeon (John) first married Their known children were: (a) Simeon, (b) Edward, (c) George, (d) Peyton, and (e) Israel.

(a) Simeon (Simeon, John) b. 1788, married in Franklin County, Virginia, on January 2, 1809, to Mary (Polly) Abshire, b. 1793, daughter of Peter and Nancy Doran Abshire. (Peter, son of Abraham Abshire, Rev. War. Veteran, married Nancy, daughter of Hartborn and Mary Doran, in Franklin County on August 19, 1789) Simeon and Polly had the following children: Booker, b. 1810; Malinda, b. 1811; Anna, Rhoda, Joab and Miriam (twins), b. 1815; Claiborne, b. 1820; Hiram, b. 1821; Florina, b. 1823; Mahala, b. 1824; Simeon, b. 1825; Abshire, b. 1826; Harvey, b. 1827; William A., b. 1829; Mary, b. 1830; Milly, b. 1834; and Artilda, b. 1835. After Polly's death, Simeon married Mary May, widow, on July 21, 1859, in Pike County.

Simeon received his first land grant in Pike County (then Floyd County) on March 6, 1817. This land was located on Grapevine Creek. He was appointed Justice of the Peace of Pike County at the first term of the Pike County Court on March 4, 1822, as were James Roberts, Reuben Rutherford, John Hunt and John Bevins. He was appointed tax collector and sheriff of Pike County on January 4, 1824.

(b) Edward (Simeon, John) married Dicey Lane, daughter of Samuel, on February 17, 1814, in Floyd County. In the 1820 Census of Floyd County, Edward lived on one side of Simeon (John) and Israel lived on the other side. This writer has no further information on Edward and his family.

(c) George (Simeon, John) married Nancy (Polly) Smith on September 5, 1803, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. George purchased land from William Taylor on September 29, 1811, in Floyd County. He and Nancy lived at the mouth of Hurricane Creek, about two miles below the mouth of Grapevine Creek, Pike County. Their known children were George, Jr., Polly, Peyton, William, Abner, Lewis and Nancy. In the 1830 Census of Pike County there were eleven children listed in George's family.

(d) Peyton. Both Simeon and William, sons of John, Sr., had sons named Peyton. One of them married Mary (Polly) May, daughter of John, Sr., and Sarah May, on July 10, 1814. The other married Mary (Polly) Slone, widow in Floyd County on December 25, 1818. From available records this writer has been unable to determine which Peyton belonged to William and which one belonged to Simeon. The first (temporary county seat of Pike County was at Liberty, Kentucky, present Millard, Kentucky, on the land of Peyton Justice. This site was selected by Mason Williams, Edward Wells, William Prater, Holloway Powers and Thomas Patrick, commissioners appointed by the court on March 25, 1822.

(e) Israel (Simeon, John) married Rhoda Blankenship on February 15, 1810, in Floyd County. They lived at the mouth of Morgan's Creek, Pike County, Kentucky. Their children were Polly, b. 1811; Andrew, b. 1813; Pricy, b. 1814; and Rhoda (Millie) b. 1825.

(2) William (son of John) came to Floyd County with his wife, Margaret. His will was lodged for record in Floyd County Court on September 26, 1815. On February 16, 1809, he had received a deed from David Morgan on the waters of the Big Sandy River, then Floyd County. The known children of William and Margaret were William, Ezra, and Peyton.

(3) John (son of John) married Amy Neal, b. April 1769, in Spartensburg, County, South Carolina, on July 26, 1781. John came to Floyd County prior to

1793 when he was listed in the Floyd County tax returns (then Mason County). He purchased land from Thomas Blackburn on June 27, 1813. This land was located on Left Beaver Creek. John and Amy's known children were John, Jr., b. 1782; Diadema, b. July 1784; Isra, b. 1793; James, b. 1788; Jonathan, b. 8-23-1796; Amos, b. 1800 and Wright, b. August 1803. John died on January ... 1831.

(4) Elizabeth, daughter of John, married David Polly on March 21, 1785, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. David's will, probated November 7, 1839, Pike County, Kentucky, gave his seven slaves their freedom. No children were mentioned in the will.

(5) Mary (Polly), daughter of John, married James Slone on October 17, 1784, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. James Slone's will dated June 24, 1847, probated 12-15-1851, Pike County, Kentucky, mentioned one son, William, deceased. Polly's will, dated June 24, 1847, probated 5-20-1855, named her twelve slaves and gave them their freedom.

Editor's Note:

There are more Justice's listed in the August 1971 telephone directory than any other family. Also, more businesses with Justice in the title. Among them is The Justice Supply Company, Inc., of Shalbiana.

Twenty years ago, Pike County's local historian, G.C. Ratliff, wrote a full-page article for the Ashland Daily Independent about the owner, William E. Justice. He told of Mr. Justice having been born near Millard (in a family of 12 children) as the son of Flem Justice; of how he attended a rural school at Fishtrap; Pikeville High School, Eastern High School in Detroit and finally, earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the Detroit Institute of Technology in 1940.

Mr. Justice brought his family and came back to Pike County to serve as Principal of Millard Grade School. After six years he gave up the security of a salary and began a housing development with \$1200 as capital. This first development was Garden Village, which was the site of Pike County's first county seat, Liberty (a site chosen by commissioners in 1823).

Garden Village was a financial success from the beginning, so Mr. Justice started developing another town between there and Millard. The new town was named Justiceville. Both river-bottom land divisions have been a boon to people in need of modest housing.

Mr. Justice and his wife Nancy (the daughter of Tom F. Justice) have given support to the Baptist church wherever they live, and their two children followed in their footsteps. He is also well-known for accepting responsibility in public service. He has and has had important positions, both elective and appointive. At present he is a road commissioner. His brother, Taylor Dock, has served as a county magistrate for more than twenty years. The Justice "generation" have helped in the development of Pike County.

PIKEVILLE *National Bank and Trust Company*

PNB

PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY 41501
TELEPHONE (606) 432-1414



First Home (rented)
of Pikeville National
Bank and Trust Company
1903



Original bank
built by Pikeville
National Bank
and Trust Com-
pany in 1904.
Picture taken in
1921 after inter-
ior remodeling.

Pikeville National Bank and Trust Company:



opening of the bank's
newly remodeled quarters

"We're here to make
good things happen."

WALTER P. WALTERS AGENCY INC.

310 Main Street
PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY 41501
Phone 437-7339

INSURANCE FOR EVERY NEED

ACCIDENT

HEALTH

AUTOMOBILE

HOME OWNERS

BONDS

LIABILITY

BURGLARY

LIFE

COMPENSATION

MARINE

FIRE

MOBILE HOME

WE SALUTE OUR GREAT COUNTY AND IT'S FINE CITIZENS WHOSE
CONFIDENCE AND LOYALTY BUILT OUR BANK.



Pikeville, Kentucky

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

- 1952 THE CITIZENS BANK OF PIKEVILLE was established.
- 1957 Pike County's first branch bank was established by THE CITIZENS BANK OF PIKEVILLE at ELKHORN CITY, KENTUCKY.
- 1960 Resources of THE CITIZENS BANK OF PIKEVILLE exceed 10 MILLION.
- 1970 Resources of THE CITIZENS BANK OF PIKEVILLE exceed 20 MILLION.
- 1972 Resources of THE CITIZENS BANK OF PIKEVILLE reach 30 MILLION.
- 1975 Resources of THE CITIZENS BANK OF PIKEVILLE reach 75 MILLION.

Five (5) banking locations to serve you.

24th Anniversary

Nathan Barker, dau of Maurice Barker and Mary H. Barker

ANCESTRAL CHART

THIS IS THE LINEAGE OF
1st GEN #1 Maurice Barker
ADDRESS Williamson, Ky

Pikeville, Ky

2 Thomas M. Barker

FATHER
B March 2, 1899

D
M B.A. 24, 1922 Pikeville
Res. Pike & Ky. 5 mile
back of Pikeville
on N. 6th St.

4 Melvin Barker

G.F.
B May 5, 1896, Middlesboro, Ky.
D July 1, 1941, Middlesboro, Ky.
Res. Pike & Ky. 4th & 4th

8 Mae Barker

G.G.F.
B March 14, 1842
D July 1933, Belmont, Ky.
Res. Pike & Ky. 4th & 4th

12 William "Big" Bennett

G.G.F.
B
D
Res.

16 Charles Barker

B
D
Res.

20 Richard Hall

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D
Res.

24 Charles Barker

B
D
Res.

28 William Barker

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32 William Barker

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48 William Barker

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52 William Barker

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Res.

ADD FURTHER NOTES
AND REFERENCES ON
REVERSE SIDE BY NUMBER

1845 Harrison Avenue, Middlesboro

ANCESTRAL CHART

THIS IS THE LINEAGE OF

1st GEN #1 James Nelson Drake

ADDRESS Indianapolis, Indiana

Shelville, Kentucky

(son)

4 John Nelson Drake

G.F. Aug. 5, 1835 Graham, Ky

D Dec. 30, 1905

M Dec. 30, 1859 John & Ky

Res. Indian. Kentucky

8 Henry Nelson

G.G.F. 1810 John & Va

D May 7, 1811 Graham, Ky

M Dec. 30, 1832 John & Ky

Res. Graham, Ky

9 William Nelson

G.G.M. 1815 John & Ky

D Sept. 3, 1876 John & Ky

10 James Nelson

G.G.F. 1830 John & Ky

D Dec. 11, 1911 John & Ky

M Dec. 3, 1852 John & Ky

Res. Graham, Ky

11 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Ky

D Oct. 20, 1915 John & Ky

12 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1838

D May 2, 1857 John & Va

Res. Graham, Ky

13 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Va

D May 2, 1857 John & Va

Res. Graham, Ky

14 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1832 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

Res. Graham, Ky

15 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

16 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1832 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

17 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

18 John Nelson

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92 _____ 124
93 _____ 125
94 _____ 126
95 _____ 127

PARENTS OF 1ST GEN

FATHER

2 William K. Nelson

B May 31, 1812 Graham, Ky

D Dec. 28, 1912 Graham, Ky

M May 31, 1912

Res. Graham, Ky

1st # 119

5 William Nelson

G.M. 1857 John & Ky

D Oct. 15, 1935 Graham, Ky

10 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1830 John & Ky

D Dec. 11, 1911 John & Ky

M Dec. 3, 1852 John & Ky

Res. Graham, Ky

11 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Ky

D Oct. 20, 1915 John & Ky

12 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1838

D May 2, 1857 John & Va

Res. Graham, Ky

13 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Va

D May 2, 1857 John & Va

Res. Graham, Ky

14 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1832 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

Res. Graham, Ky

15 John Nelson

G.G.M. 1834 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

16 John Nelson

G.G.F. 1832 John & Ky

D May 2, 1857 John & Ky

17 John Nelson

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90 _____ 122
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92 _____ 124
93 _____ 125
94 _____ 126
95 _____ 127

3 Mary Drake

MOTHER

B Sept. 5, 1893 Kentucky, Ky

D

KEY

B = BORN

D = DIED

M = MARRIED

Res. = RESIDENCE

ADD FURTHER NOTES

AND REFERENCES ON

REVERSE SIDE BY NUMBER

Wife of David Drake

WE'RE CELEBRATING PIKE COUNTY'S GROWTH AND OURS, TOO!

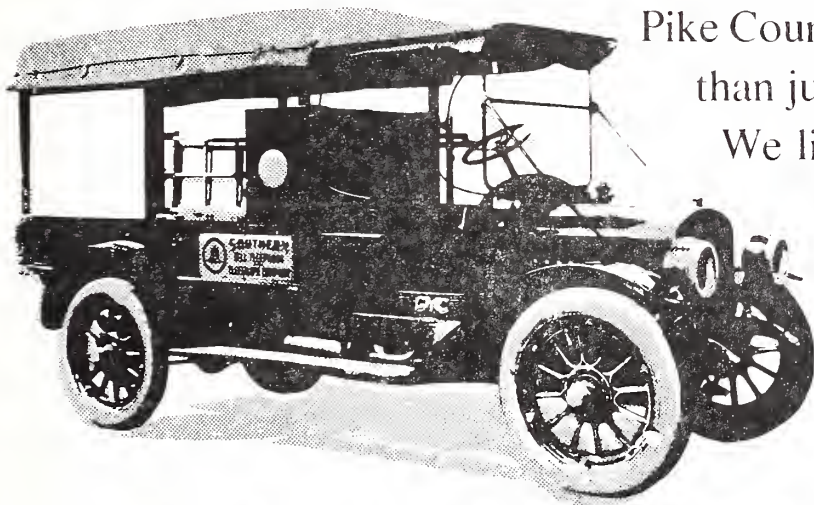
Pike County has really grown in the last 150 years—from about 2,672 people then to 61,059 today. But growth means more than just adding land and people and houses. It means building a better place to live.

From 398 telephones in 1926 to 20,996 telephones today, telephone service has grown with Pike County. But giving good telephone service to our customers in



Pike County means more to us than just adding telephones.

We like to think that as we've grown we've helped make Pike County a better place to live.



CONGRATULATIONS, PIKE COUNTY. WE'RE PROUD TO HAVE GROWN WITH YOU!



South Central Bell

Keeping you in touch

HISTORY OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PIKEVILLE

The First National Bank of Pikeville began business as a State bank under the name of The Bank of Pikeville. At the first meeting of the Board of Directors, of September 20, 1888, A.J. Hatcher was temporarily elected President and W.M. Connolly, Secretary and Treasurer. The purpose of this meeting was to make plans for a brick bank building with law officers over it. The property was later purchased from Mrs. Kentucky Ferrell, size 24' x 40', for \$700 and was paid for by the sale of capital stock. With the lot went the privilege of adjoining the bank building to the side of a store house on the next lot.

When the building was completed, the part occupied by the bank contained 76,580 brick, which, at \$3.00 per 1,000, amounted to \$229.74, plus \$236.74 for labor. The vault door was purchased from Hall's Lock & Safe Company for \$100.00, less \$5.00 freight, to be paid on arrival.

The following permanent officers were elected by the Board of Directors on December 8, 1888: R.M. Ferrell, President; C.W. Parsons, Vice President; and H. Williamson, "Cashier Temporary," who was later replaced by J.B. Hatten as the Permanent Cashier and Secretary at a salary of \$800.00 per year.

The Directors of The Bank of Pikeville met in the Court House on June 29, 1889, and adopted Minutes of previous meetings and By-Laws for the government of the Bank, which was to open officially on July 1, 1889.

After one month of transactions, the cash on hand on July 31, 1889 is itemized below:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Gold | \$1,957.50 |
| Currency | 9,663.00 |
| Silver Dollars | 527.00 |
| Halves | 156.00 |
| Quarters | 24.75 |
| Dimes | 35.70 |
| Nickels | 21.90 |
| Cents | 11.25 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$12,397.10</u> |

On April 1, 1890, the directors decided they should provide better protection for their customers' funds and valuables. A time-lock burglar-proof safe was purchased from Hall's Lock and Safe Company in Cincinnati at a price of \$675.00. This was later traded in on a Mosler safe, which had a round top with a rotating, combination-lock center section, approximately five and one-half feet tall. Inside capacity of the center section was approximately nine and one-half cubic feet. This safe was the very latest protection in the bank-vault line at that time. It can still be seen in the inner vault of the bank, as the large outer vault was later built around it and the safe has never been removed.

Application was made for conversion into a National bank and permission was granted on February 20, 1903. The name was officially changed to The First National Bank of Pikeville and the following officers were elected to operate the rest of that year: John W. Ford, President; J.P. Powers, Vice President; J.C. Bowles, Cashier; and W.W. Gray, Assistant Cashier.

In May, 1911, business had grown to such an extent that a committee was appointed to purchase the adjoining corner building. Remodeling was completed with rental offices on the third floor.

We have enjoyed good leadership by our past and present officers. Following are the men who have served as presidents: R.M. Ferrell; John W. Ford; W.W. Gray; George W. Greer; Mack Bowles; Kelly Day; and Norman A. Chrisman, our current President.

On January 13, 1925, the office of "Chairman of the Board" was created, with George W. Greer elected to hold this newly-elected office. He was succeeded in this office in later years by the following: Mack Bowles; Cecil R. Greer; Robert H. Hobbs; and James G. Hobbs, our present Chairman.

Presently serving in various capacities are: Trimble Maynard; John E. Coleman; G. Roger Roberts; Jonathan Hiers; Portia Doka; Wilnah H. Dixon; Sidney E. Copley; James T. King; Kenneth Huffman; Kelly Brown; and David Varney.

The Federal Reserve Board approved application for Trust Powers on December 19, 1927, and the Secretary of the Board was authorized to proceed with the necessary steps to organize the Trust Department.

In 1932, \$3,235.00 was spent for the installation of the McClintock Bandit Barrier Protective System. Up until this time, a guard had been employed for the lobby of the bank.

That same year, a "banking holiday" was declared by the Governor of Kentucky, and a restriction of withdrawals was enforced. Withdrawals from checking accounts were restricted temporarily to five per cent and from savings, one per cent. In all other respects, the bank carried on its business in the usual way.

Extensive remodeling of the bank was undertaken again in 1952 and the new lobby and exterior was completed in early 1953.

The first branch bank was opened at South Williamson, Kentucky on August 1, 1963 and is doing well. Two new branches will open soon, one at Ferrell's Creek, near Elkhorn City, and one at Coal Run Village.

We have enjoyed serving our community and helping it grow. We hope Eastern Kentucky will continue to progress and that we will share in that progress.

PIKEVILLE, KY. March 12 1897

38

BANK OF PIKEVILLE

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

John M. Dye

\$ 5.00

five

DOLLARS

FOR

Lanachie Thompson

ABOVE IS AN ACTUAL REPRODUCTION OF A CHECK THAT WAS WRITTEN ON THE BANK OF PIKEVILLE IN 1897.

CHRISMAN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

GENERAL  NSURANCE

“Where Customers Send Their Friends”



OVER 35 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Norman A. Chrisman

Charles B. Chrisman

James F. Justice

Hal B. Amos

Kenton Leatherman

333 Main Street • Pikeville, Kentucky 41501 • Phone 437 - 4086 (Area Code 606)

HIGHLIGHTS OF FOURTEEN YEAR HISTORY OF PIKE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Board of Directors and members of the Chamber warmly congratulate Pike County and its citizens on the occasion of their celebration of 150 years of growth and development. Following are some of the major accomplishments of Pike County's people with which the Chamber has taken part.

- 1957 Pike County Chamber of Commerce was organized after devastating flood of Big Sandy Valley in 1957.
- 1958 Worked diligently with Federal and State officials to obtain flood control for the Big Sandy Valley.
- 1959 Promoted home gardens in Pike County; helped place 23 purebred Guernsey heifers to improve Pike County's breed stock.
- 1960 Organized citizens' work on present Pike County Airport valued at \$50,000 and helped manage 100 million dollar Road and Park Bond issue in Pike County.
- 1961 Sponsored a major Clean-Up Campaign in Pike County; and published and distributed 10,000 promotional brochures on the area while Pike County fought for Mountain Parkway and urged its extension to Pikeville.
- 1962 Instrumental in acquisition of land and initiation of Island Creek Airport Project.
- 1964 Appeared before many Congressional Committees seeking the re-building of U.S. Highways 23, 119, and 460.
- 1965 Pikeville was named an "All-America City" by Look magazine; award based primarily on area's dramatic recovery from the 1957 and 1963 floods.
- 1967 Department of Housing and Urban Development picked Pikeville as one of the original participants in Demonstration Cities Program; Chamber played major role in organization of citizens' participation in this effort to make Pikeville a Model City.
- 1968 President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated Fistrap Dam - a culmination of eleven years of writing letters to Congress and appearing before Congressional committees by many citizens. The Chamber sponsored the dedication ceremony.
- 1970 Fishtrap Reservoir was named a State Park; and the area's first bona fide industrial sites were acquired under aegis of Model City Program.
- 1971 Pikeville was named an All-Kentucky City for 1970; 30,000 promotional brochures about Pike County were published with more than 10,000 distributed over the United States and a railroad car was donated by C&O and B&O Railway for new Chamber office center.
- 1972 Contract was signed for Pikeville's first industry for new sites. The Chamber's membership has more than doubled in the last four years - to nearly 300 members.

PIKE COUNTY SURNAMES IN FIRST CENSUS: 1830

By

Dewey Honaker

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Adkins | Cole | Hays | Moore | Runyon |
| Akers | Coleman | Heaberlain | Morgan | Scott |
| Alley | Colman | Hensley | Mullins | Sexton |
| Anderson | Collans | Hesdt | Mullons | Shockey |
| Bailey | Collansworth | Honaker | Munsey | Slone |
| Ball | Colley | Horrill | Muntsey | Smith |
| Beavers | Cook | Howard | Murry | Sowards |
| Belcher | Crabtree | Hunt | Mutter | Spriggs |
| Bevans | Dameron | Huston | Naylor | Stafford |
| Birchett | Davidson | Johnson | Neeley | Stanley |
| Bishop | Davis | Johnston | Nester | Stare |
| Blackburn | Deal | Jude | Newsome | Staton |
| Blankenship | Dean | Justice | Ooton | Steel |
| Boney | Deskins | Kasaman | Osbon | Stepp |
| Boswell | Dials | Kazee | Owens | Stewart |
| Bowling | Drake | Keathley | Perry | Stotts |
| Branham | Elswick | Kells | Phillips | Stratton |
| Breeding | Evans | King | Pinson | Swinney |
| Burgett | Ferguson | Lawson | Plyman | Sword |
| Burk | Ferrell | Layne | Polly | Syck |
| Calloway | Fields | Ledinham | Potter | Tackett |
| Cambell | Findley | Lesley | Porter | Taylor |
| Canida | Floyd | Lestor | Powell | Thacker |
| Cantrile | Ford | Lewis | Prator | Thompson |
| Carty | France | Little | Preston | Thornsberry |
| Casida | Fuller | Low | Price | Troutt |
| Castile | Gannon | Lycans | Pruoit | Vanover |
| Cecil | Gibson | Manor | Ramy | Varney |
| Chaney | Goff | Marrs | Ramsey | Virmillion |
| Charles | Gray | Matthis | Ratliff | Walters |
| Childers | Hackworth | Mattany | Ray | Ward |
| Childress | Hackney | May | Reatherford | Weddington |
| Clark | Hall | McCoy | Reynolds | Whitt |
| Clay | Hamilton | McGee | Roberts | Williams |
| Clevanger | Harlys | McGinnys | Robinson | Williamson |
| Cline | Hartsock | McKown | Roman | Wolford |
| Colman | Hatfield | Mims | Rowe | |

SLAVEHOLDERS IN PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY IN 1830

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|---|----------------------|-----------|
| Adkins, Frederick | 1 | Justice, Simeon | 1 | Ratliff, Silas | 1 |
| Adkins, Spencer | 5 | May, Thomas | 3 | Ratliff, Thomas | 3 |
| Campbell, David | 3 | Mullens, Solomon | 6 | Reutherford, Reu.Sr. | 1 |
| Cecil, William | 1 | Owens, Thomas | 3 | Runyon, Henry | 6 |
| Davis, William | 3 | Phillips, Zachariah | 1 | Slone, James | 19 |
| Honaker, James | 1 | Polly, David | 6 | Stepp, Thomas | 2 |
| Johnston, Barnabas | 2 | Price, Thomas | 5 | Walters, Zachariah | 1 |
| Justice, Payton | 1 | Ramsey, Robert | 1 | Weddington, Wm. | 1 |
| Justice, Rhoda | 2 | | | | <u>78</u> |

SPONSORED BY THE PIKEVILLE CAR DEALERS ASSOCIATION

CITY OF PIKEVILLE

Pikeville was laid out as a townsite in 1824. In 1830 the population of Pikeville was 49 people. In 1829 the post office at Pikeville was changed to "Piketon" and in 1881 it was changed back to Pikeville by Postmaster Lewis C. Dils. Will M. Smith was the first postmaster. A paper found upstairs in the clerk's office indicates that in 1859 Soloman Damron, James M. Rice, Albert Cecil and George W. Brown were appointed trustees of the town of Pikeville.

In 1893 Pikeville was chartered as a sixth class city, under the administration of Governor John Y. Brown. A town marshal was appointed and a town lockup was built. The first marshal's names to be recorded in city court records were A.J. Casebolt and Jesse Green. The first police judge was Theo. O. Marrs.

This from "History of the Badge in Pike County, by Jack Bartley.



1976 PIKEVILLE OFFICIALS

MAYOR
COMMISSIONERS

CITY MANAGER
CITY JUDGE
CHIEF POLICE
FIRE CHIEF
CODES AND ZONING INSPECTOR

Dr. W. C. Hambley
Robert Amos
Thomas Howell
Joe Meade
Sidney Ratliff, Jr.
Ayers Short
Buford Johnson
Jess Johnson
Charles T. Smith
Earl Wiggins

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Editor's Note:

This first volume of the Pike County Historical Societys' sesquicentennial publication has been prepared in haste, mostly from articles used in giving programs. Volume II will be better organized and can be expected to contain supplementary historical materials.

Some of these materials are: a collection of pictures, including several of the celebration; a list of Pike County Place Names; some literary selections; many more informative pages of history and genealogy sponsored by businesses and interested persons; articles about the Hatfields and the McCoy's; Fishtrap area; bottling of soft drinks; Pikeville College Baptists; mining; the railroad; and an INDEX.

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